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U.S. 'GUNBOAT DIPLOMACY' AGAINST LIBYA ATTACKED

AU251925 Sofia BTA in English 1830 GMT 25 Mar 86

["'Gun-boat Diplomacy' Once Again" -- BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, March 25 (BTA commentator S. Simeonov) -- Only five days ago the Bulgarian Foreign Ministry expressed acute protest prompted by the violation of the Black Sea border by US military ships. Today the world has witnessed a by far more dangerous provocation against another sovereign state -- Libya. A provocation which is in a state to set on fire not only the as its is conflict-prone Mediterranean [as received] region but the entire world itself.

The aggression against Libya is not unprecedented. The policy of the White House abounds in examples of brutal disrespect of international norms and of the sovereign rights of the peoples. It will suffice to mention the barbarous bombings of Hanoi which involved the country in the disastrous Vietnamese venture, the invasion of Grenada, the aggressive activities against Nicaragua and the interference in the home affairs of Afghanistan. And if for some of these acts Washington nevertheless succeeded in pointing to some pseudo pretext in the case with Libya the pretext was perseveringly sought for a long time and finally instigated. This is the only way in which the military manoeuvres of the US near the Libyan coast, the fifth since the beginning of the year, can be defined.

Actually "gun-boat diplomacy" and "big stick" policy have long turned into the style of action of the Reagan administration. They underlie the "star wars" plans, the purposeful impeding of the progress of the disarmament talks, the nuclear weapon tests in Nevada which were the response to the Soviet peaceful initiatives. The new venture, this time against Libya, is only the latest expression of this course. Without even seeking the advice of its closest NATO partners, the White House decided to show the world its muscles.

What is the Reagan administration counting on the latest manifestation of its policy of neoglobalism? Maybe on the patience of the world, on the sense of responsibility to world peace of the persuade the US voters and taxpayers that the US is continuing to dictate its will to the world in order to light a chauvinistic flame in them. But is not this play with fire rather dangerous and may it not burn, as the case with Vietnam was, the fingers of the U.S. itself?

FURTHER REPORTAGE ON GOVERNMENT CHANGES

AU250953 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 22 Mar 86 p 2

["Proposal on the Adoption of a Decree for Changes in the Council of Ministers' Personnel" -- submitted at the closing meeting of the 20th session of the Eight National Assembly on 21 March 1986; capitalized passages printed in boldface]

[Excerpts] The third item on the agenda of the 20th session of the Eighth National Assembly was the proposal on the adoption of a decree for changes in the Council of Ministers composition which was submitted by the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and read by Stanko Todorov, chairman of the National Assembly.

According to the proposal submitted by the chairman of the Council of Ministers, the State Council of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, basing itself on Article 94, Item 4 of the Constitution of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, issued a decree by which the following appointments are adopted:

1. Ognyan Doynov, chairman of the Economic of the Council of Ministers and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

2. Georgi Yordanov, chairman of the Council of Science, Culture, and Education, and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

3. Georgi Karamanev, chairman of the Social Council at the Council of Ministers and deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers.

The Constitution demands that this decree should be approved and adopted by the National Assembly. For this reason we ask you, comrade National Assembly deputies, to discuss the question of adopting the decree and, if you approve the proposal, to vote on it and adopt it.

The National Assembly deputies unanimously voted for this proposal, and the decree on changes in the Council of Ministers composition was adopted.

The fourth and last item on the agenda of the session was the discussion of a proposal on structural and personnel changes within the Council of Ministers.

The National Assembly deputies heard the proposal submitted by Todor Zhivkov, chairman of the State Council:

COMRADE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEPUTIES, AT THE LAST SESSION OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY STRUCTURAL AND PERSONNEL CHANGES TOOK PLACE WITHIN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

IT IS NECESSARY TO FURTHER PERFECT THE STRUCTURE OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND ITS ORGANS IN CONFORMITY WITH THE DECISIONS OF THE LAST PLENUM OF THE BCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE. ALONG WITH THIS, IT IS NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE RESPECTIVE PERSONNEL CHANGES WITHIN THE COMPOSITION OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS.

I PROPOSE THAT YOU SHOULD DISCUSS THE CHANGES AND IF YOU APPROVE THEM, THAT YOU ADOPT THE SUBMITTED DRAFT DECISION.

THE PROPOSALS ON THE STRUCTURAL CHANGES AND PERSONNEL CHANGES WITHIN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WAS UNANIMOUSLY APPROVED.

THE NEWLY ELECTED MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS WERE INVITED TO SIGN DOCUMENTS, IN WHICH THEY TAKE THE OATH TO THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AS ENVISAGED IN THE CONSTITUTION OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA.

THIS WAS THE LAST ITEM ON THE AGENDA WHICH WAS COMPLETED.

ZHIVKOV GREETS GORBACHEV ON REELECTION

AU171247 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 7 Mar 86 p 1

[Greetings message of Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee and State Council chairman, to Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on his reelection to this post]

[Text] To Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, Moscow.

Dear Comrade Gorbachev,

On Behalf of the BCP Central Committee, and all Bulgarian Communists, I greet you fraternally and from the bottom of my heart on your reelection as general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

We are convinced that under your leadership the CPSU Central Committee, with Leninist style, dynamically, and in a businesslike manner, will mobilize and direct the constructive energy of the communists and the entire USSR working people to implement the decision of the 27th CPSU Congress.

Conducted during a turning point of our time, the congress marked the roads of accelerating the socio-economic development of the USSR and reaching a new quality situation of the Soviet society. The political report, the new edition of the CPSU Program, and the other documents, as well as the entire activity of the congress, are permeated by an innovating spirit and evoke an upsurge of power among the Soviet people. We understand that they have a historic significance not only for the USSR but also for the peoples of the socialist community and for human progress. The peaceful initiatives raised by the congress captivate the minds and hearts of the Bulgarian people and all honest people throughout the world and strengthen their will to struggle to protect and strengthen peace, and preserve and develop modern civilization.

The highest CPSU forum inspires our working people to greet the forthcoming 13th BCP Congress with concrete labor feats and solve with creative boldness the issues of the country's socio-economic development.

We are deeply convinced that the indestructible Bulgarian-Soviet friendship, and comprehensive coming together of our parties, countries, and peoples will further dynamically and fruitfully develop.

From the bottom of my heart I wish you, dear Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich, good health and great success in your exceptionally responsible activity to put into effect the historic instructions of the 27th CPSU Congress for the benefit of the fraternal Soviet people and the triumph of our communist ideal.

[Signed] Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the BCP Central Committee.

[dated] Sofia, 6 March 1986.

GUSTAV HUSAK DELIVERS CPCZ POLITICAL REPORT

LD241530 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 0915 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Political Report delivered by Gustav Husak, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, at the 17th CPCZ Congress at the Palace of Culture in Prague -- live]

[Text] Esteemed comrade delegates, esteemed guests, the 17th CPCZ Congress is meeting in a period of significant changes in the life of our country and in the world. In many respects the present epoch is posing new problems and demands before us. The task is to evaluate responsibly the situation, in which we work, and to judge objectively what we managed to achieve. At the same time we point, in the communist principled way, openly and honestly, to the weak spots and shortcomings which are hampering our advance. This will enable us to set out the tasks and paths for the more effective utilization of the possibilities and advantages of socialism, and accelerate socioeconomic and social development in the interest of the happy life of our people. All our steps have to be considered with the awareness of the highest duty faced by mankind -- the elimination of the threat of nuclear catastrophe, the provision of long-term peace and the right to a peaceful life. Our party approaches the 17th congress with feelings of high responsibility before our people and before international revolutionary movement. Our task is to balance the results achieved since the 16th congress and during the entire period of building developed socialism, and to determine the main directions for the development of society and the work of the party for the next 5 years and until the end of this century.

Characteristic of the congress preparations was the businesslike, constructive, highly demanding moral and political atmosphere, influenced by the conclusions of the June CPCZ Central Committee session, which decided to convene the congress. The pre-congress period, the annual membership meetings and the conferences and the congress of the Communist Party of Slovakia have yielded valuable experiences and initiatives, as you are all aware from these meetings. Hundreds of thousands of party members and other citizens have actively joined in the intra-party and public discussion of the published documents that were prepared for discussion by the congress. There were many critical comments of various kinds. However, an absolute support to the political course of the party and to our domestic and foreign policy was mainly expressed. The CPCZ has proved its ideological unity and cohesion. The preparation for the congress has been accompanied by the upsurge of working activity and initiative developed for its honor and for the 65th anniversary of establishment of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. All this has yielded exceptional and worthy values. From this rostrum I would like to voice my sincere thanks to the work collectives and to all of those who joined this wide stream of socialist competition. [applause]

The preparations for our debate have been fruitfully influenced by the 27th CPSU Congress and that which preceded it. It has become an exceptionally significant event of enormous historical impact, and will without doubt take up an important position in the people's struggle for peace and social progress. The CPSU, through its principled, innovative approach to resolving the key issues of the present time, proves that it is fulfilling its historical mission in an exemplary way. This was a congress of pride in the enormous achievement of the Soviet people, of big and courageous goals; it was a congress of work and peace and of high moral aims, humanism, exactingness, adherence to Leninist principles; a congress of sharp criticism of the shortcomings; and a congress of self-criticism, where there was no room for embellishment and pretense. It was a congress of creative Leninism and historical optimism. [applause]

Our party and the Czechoslovak people followed the course of the supreme forum of the Soviet Communists with unprecedented interest and attention, especially the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee which was delivered by Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, its general secretary.

The Leninist spirit of that report, its conclusions, the new edition of the CPSU Program, the other documents adopted by the congress, and the down-to-earth and responsible discussion, are having a strong influence in Czechoslovakia. It is a stimulus for us too, and has become an inspiring force for our party and our people. We endorse the conclusions of the 27th CPSU Congress, and its principled spirit.

The task for us which stems from that congress is to learn even more from the experience of the Leninist party of the Soviet Communists; not to be satisfied with what has been achieved; to ensure that there is always the right to criticism and self-criticism in our party; to tackle problems decisively; to strengthen the link with the people; and not to tolerate anything which tarnishes the good name of our party and socialism. [applause]

Comrades, the written report of the Central Committee on the fulfillment of the conclusions of the 16th CPCZ Congress which you have before you, which was previously sent to you and which will be published during the course of the congress, shows that the recent period was filled with fruitful, creative and constructive work, and with the enthusiastic efforts of the party and people.

This was not easy. At the end of the seventies and beginning of the eighties, the international situation deteriorated abruptly. Most of the imperialist states stepped up their discriminatory policy against the socialist world. Profound changes occurred in the world economy, which also had an unfavorable effect on our internal development. The cost of obtaining raw materials, production materials and fuel and energy sources grew substantially, both those produced at home and those imported. From the political and economic viewpoint, the urgent task arose of speeding up the repayment of credits in convertible currency. In addition in the first 2 years of that 5-year period we had to cope with poor harvests caused by bad weather. This situation placed high demands on all our work. At the same time a number of weak points emerged, especially in the inflexible and inconsistent use of intensification factors, above all those of scientific and technical progress, the low rate of applying this progress in production.

Many senior managers did not sufficiently realize that it is impossible to progress in the old way through the method of extensive growth of the national economy. In the first 2 years of the Seventh 5-Year Plan there was a fall in economic growth. The Central Committee analyzed the situation; it did not retreat before obstacles, it galvanized the party and the communists in the trade union movement and throughout the National Front and in the state and economic bodies, and in the broad strata of the working people, to uncover reserves decisively and to use them in order to implement tasks consistently.

The Central Committee and the government were forced to take certain extraordinary measures with the aim of ensuring the domestic and foreign economic equilibrium, and of creating the necessary conditions for restoring the dynamism of growth in the national economy. We carried out certain changes in the plan, we tightened up investment and import policy, and we made certain changes in the structure of production and consumption, including some essential price measures and adjustments. Life has shown the correctness of the decisions that were made. The result was that it became possible, as early as in 1983, to renew the dynamism of economic development as set out by the 16th congress and generally to fulfill the tasks which it mapped out.

We have achieved unquestionable success in industry, agriculture and in other sectors. The assets created are making it possible to ensure the further development of education, science, culture and health care. In view of the position of our economy and its sensitivity to external conditions, we consider it particularly important that we have succeeded in ensuring equilibrium in external economic relations and also in achieving an equal balance of payments with the non-socialist countries -- and (?that is) no mean accomplishment in today's Europe.

Overall, our national economy has shown the ability to develop successfully even in substantially more challenging conditions. Although it was necessary to overcome many obstacles and cope with all the shortcomings -- and we did not always succeed with all of these -- we never lost sight of the fundamental directives of the 16th congress of maintaining and improving the living standards of the people, and ensuring their living and social guarantees. We have succeeded well in carrying this out. [applause]

The results we have achieved since the 16th congress show that in the last 5 years we have accomplished significant successes on the road to building an advanced socialist society. The implementation of this long-term general policy set out at the 14th congress 15 years ago has produced for Czechoslovakia a market rise in all spheres of social, economic and cultural life.

National income, which is the crucial yardstick of the wealth of society, has grown in the last 15 years by 81 percent. The volume of industrial production has grown by 97 percent, and of construction production by 84 percent. Agricultural production has grown by a third. Our self-sufficiency in foodstuff production has been enhanced. There has been a substantial increase in economic, scientific and technical cooperation with the CEMA countries, especially with the Soviet Union. The total foreign trade turnover has approximately doubled. The Soviet Union's share in our foreign trade turnover has reached almost 45 percent; that of the CEMA states, 74 percent. I quote these figures partly because in the West there is a great deal of speculation about our mutual trade interplay (?as we go into our congress). We speak about this openly and gladly.

The results we have achieved in the last 15 years in the development of the national economy have allowed a growth in personal consumption by 44 percent. Economic public consumption has grown by 109 percent. Pension provision has been improved, there has been a marked improvement in provision for families with children and for workers when they are sick. Almost 1.8 million apartments have been built. There has been a substantial development in the system of social guarantees for all citizens.

One of the key tasks of our internal policy has been to consolidate and develop further our socialist social system, and the political system of socialism. The evolution we have undergone since the beginning of the seventies is a telling response to all the anti-socialist and revisionist forces who prophesied that the Czechoslovak SR would not extricate itself from the crisis at the end of the sixties. As you see, they were wrong.

We have followed consistently the path of strengthening the power of the people, the socialist state, and expanding the socialist democracy. The leading position of the working class has been strengthened; its cohesion with cooperative peasants and intelligentsia has been strengthened. The socialist awareness of our people has been increased, their education has been improved further, the moral-political unity of the society has also increased. The Leninist principle of the federation arrangement of the state has been successful; the further development and rapprochment of our nations and nationalities has taken place. We can thus say, Czechoslovakia is entering the second half of 1980's as a consolidated, politically strong, economically and socially advanced state with high living and cultural standards for the population. From the congress rostrum I would like to thank the communists, members of other political parties, nonparty members, the whole National Front, workers, cooperative peasants, intelligentsia, and all members of our country who have contributed to this. [applause]

Our foreign policy has also been clear and principled. The CPCZ has continually striven for our country to be a firm link of the socialist community, and for its

international-political prestige and authority in the world to strengthen. Under the internationalist alliance with the Soviet Union and other fraternal socialist countries, united in the Warsaw Treaty Organization, the defense ability and security of our country has increased. We take an active part in the great struggle for peace and social progress.

The successes of which we are rightly proud have been achieved thanks to the principled policy of the CPCZ, its cohesion with working people, its organizational and ideological work, and the efforts of the thousands of its member-functionaries. The CPCZ Central Committee and its bodies took care to maintain the continuity and creative development of the strategic line of the 14th congress in harmony with the lessons of the crisis-ridden development in the party and society after the 13th CPCZ Congress, realistically assessed the situation, and led the party and society toward the fulfillment of their tasks.

When speaking about resources which are the basis of our successful work, we must again stress the fact that we have been able and are able to lean on the socialist community, on the firm friendship and alliance and (?mutually advantages) cooperation with the Soviet Union and its Leninist Communist Party. [applause]

The positive balance-sheet which the CPCZ Central Committee submits to the 17th congress does not mean that everything has been going smoothly, or that we can be satisfied with ourselves and overlook the weak points in our work. About that which we have achieved -- those are no doubt good results -- let us ask ourselves openly, could they not have been even better? Could we not have achieved better progress in the intensification of the national economy, in efficiency, and quality of work? There is no section where there are not reserves and they have been rightly pointed out during the course of the precongress discussions in our whole country.

There has been much inconsistency in many places in management, in cadre work, in the fulfillment of resolutions, and we cannot close our eyes to it. A lack of criticism, a lack of principled attitudes lead to subjectivism, stagnation, and to the loss of prospective. What this can lead to has been shown us by the dearly paid for experience of the crisis-ridden years at the end of the 1960's. We have experienced it personally. Problems have always existed and will always exist. It is important, however, not to hide them, not to go round them, but to solve them quickly. Our tasks are such that we must not tolerate words being at variance with deeds; we must not tolerate any half-done things, limited, narrow-minded sectors attitudes, red tape, or formalism. Our people, with justification, link the insurance of the further dynamic growth of our society with the activity of the Communist Party and with its leading role, which with the advancement of the socialist building is logically increasing. All party authorities and organizations, all Communists at all sections, must be aware of this.

We must never forget that all this work must be supported by the increased activity of the people and the development and use of their creative powers. We must raise to a higher standard the political-organization and ideological work of the party. We must improve the activity of state and economic organizations -- all links of our political system. We must choose such approaches, methods, and work styles which will guarantee the fulfillment of the goals which we set ourselves at this congress for the forthcoming period.

Comrades, the key question of the present stage of development, both from the international and internal point of view, is how to accelerate the needed socio-economic development of our society, increasing considerably the output and efficiency of the national economy. In order to achieve this we must mobilize more effectively our entire material and spiritual potential. The tasks which proceed from this have to

be understood in their overall revolutionary far-reaching context; they are the main battlefield where the further successes of socialism will be decided. Their fulfillment concerns production, [word indistinct] party work, socialist state, economic organs, trade union movement, the entire national front, national committees, and all citizens of our socialist country.

The main essence of our effort we see, above all, in the achievement of a further increase in the living standard of the population and in the strengthening of its social certainties. This means creating conditions for the satisfaction of new, qualitatively higher needs of citizens, for the harmonious development of the personality, and for deepening the socialist way of life. At the same time we must make sure that the increase of the material and cultural standard of working people is a direct result of their active participation in the creation of the society's wealth.

On the basis of the analysis of possibilities and needs of the further development of the society in (?this 5-year plan) or in the outlook of the economic and social development up to the year 2000, we set ourselves high targets. You have the documents. During the next 15 years the national income is to increase by more than two thirds, with a significant reduction of the use of material and energy in production. The social labor productivity, alone, is to increase by almost two thirds. Only in this way will it be possible to create the necessary resources for the growth of personal consumption for the population by at least half, for the further increase of the social consumption, for the safeguarding of construction and modernization of 1 million apartments and for a more decisive solution of ecological problems. This will provide a materially and spiritually richer life for our citizens, improve their living and working conditions, and be a further step in the creation of the way of life corresponding to the socialist principles. Thus the necessary means for the provision of the country's defense ability will also be created. More resources must also be created to solve the far-reaching task of modernization and renovation of the entire national economy. And for the implementation of the important structural changes in the national economy which will increase considerably the production efficiency. Its export ability must be strengthened, and the tasks of the international division of labor, above all in the CEMA, must be strengthened.

It is also important to implement progressive changes in the social division of labor which will change not only the character of human activity, but man himself. These changes are a prerequisite for accelerating the process of wiping out the differences between classes and social groups, as was indicated in the original programs of the founders of Marxism.

To achieve these goals it is necessary to base our future approach on the much more decisive and consistent implementation of the strategic line of accelerating social and economic development, particularly through the intensification of the national economy. We also spoke about this at past congresses, but what is important is to make a decisive step, a decisive turn to the realization of this vital line. This requirement places things of a most topical and urgent nature in our lives. The overall intensification of our economy is subordinate to considerably accelerating progress in research and development and consistent implementation of its results in practice. A true revolution is taking place in the world in science and technology, with far-reaching influence on all areas of production, on social relations and the whole system of management, on the conditions of life and work of every person.

If we speak of a revolution then of course we have to approach research and development' its implementation in practice, in the corresponding demanding way. The task at hand is radically to increase the ability to develop science and technology, to realize its results quickly and to implement technological innovation quickly and in the widest possible way; this will produce a marked social effect, high technical level

and higher quality of products. This is the decisive way toward such growth in the productivity of labor, which will enable our country to take a foremost place among the developed states of the world and to contribute effectively to the strengthening of the positions of socialism in peaceful competition with capitalism.

Emerging from this also is the exceptional importance of our participation in the realization of the Comprehensive Program of Scientific and Technological Progress of the CEMA Member-Countries up to the Year 2000, which represents a qualitatively new step toward socialist economic integration. This program is also important from the viewpoint of reducing technological and economic vulnerability in relation to the capitalist world. Its strategic changes aimed at the use of electronics in the national economy, at comprehensive automation of production, at development of nuclear energy, at production of new materials and implementation of new technology, and at the development of biotechnology, fully correspond to the needs of Czechoslovakia. We consider the fulfillment of this program as a key task of our economic and science and technology policy, and we will steadfastly aim the efforts of all sectors, economic production unit enterprises and the whole of our research and development base at this.

These are not small tasks nor simple ones, whether they concern the ministries or enterprises, and the aim is high: to achieve top level in the named areas by the year 2000, and to achieve high quality. What this means for our economy is completely clear. We cannot achieve this on our own. Joined with the Soviet Union and other states this is a realistic possibility -- it just requires a little effort.

In these efforts we consider the fulfillment of the Long-Range Program of Economic, Scientific and Technological Cooperation with the Soviet Union Until the Year 2000 to be of prime importance. Its implementation, as well as the implementation of further programs, which have been agreed with other CEMA member-states, requires initiative, active and responsible action of the entire leading and economic sphere. The mechanism of management and planning and the whole investment policy have to be subordinated to the long-range strategy of the intensification of the national economy, which rests upon technological progress. Struggle for intensification and research and development, the implementation of structural changes and substantial improvement of management and planning has to become the main content of the activity of the party, state and economic organizations. This requires us to increase organization and discipline everywhere to improve fundamentally the style of work and to establish the corresponding creative atmosphere. We have to be more decisive in overcoming stereotype, technological conservatism, inertia, and habits common in the extensive economic development; in accordance with the requirements of the time we have to alter the psychology and methods of people's activities.

Comrades, we have to take a decisive step in the implementation of the long-range strategic line of economic and social development in the Eighth 5-Year Plan. We have to apply high standards to each manager and to the work collectives already this year, in the first year of the next 5-year plan. The specific tasks have been set in the draft of the Main Guidelines of the Economic and Social Development of the CSSR for 1986-90 and up to the Year 2000. Comrade Strougal will speak in detail about these tasks tomorrow. The basic requirement is to achieve an 18-19 percent growth in national income. At the same time 92-95 percent of its increase is to be ensured by the growth of social productivity of labor.

It has to be said that these figures were not born with ease. They had to be fought for. And the Central Committee considers the proposed growth in national income by 3.5 percent per year to be a minimum one. It is not possible to retreat before those sectors' and enterprises' tendencies which want to soften the plan, to stick to the well-tried path of people who are afraid of taking responsibility upon themselves.

And yet in the first months of the year one can see complaints everywhere and there is insufficient concentration of energy upon the fulfillment of the plan. Naturally, I am not speaking about all of them. There are enterprises which work very well. Our economy still has at its disposal plenty of possibilities to do this. In comparison with other industrially advanced states, a low degree of utilization of production assets still continues in our country. We are constantly discussing this -- high energy raw materials and material consumption in production still continues. The enterprises have been given a comparison of how much iron and steel and how much of other materials we need in our country for certain operations, and how much is needed elsewhere in the world. This [consumption] has to be lowered significantly in this 5-year plan. There are also considerable reserves in the use of working hours, in organization of labor and production and in the entire system of management -- that is, in what is at our disposal.

Engineering must play a decisive role in accelerating scientific and technological progress and in modernizing the production base. Its production is to grow in this 5-year plan by roughly one-fourth. And the output of the electrical equipment industry is to grow by almost two-thirds. It is necessary to implement a much more active technical and innovative policy, to make fuller use of the possibilities and advantages of socialist economic integration, production specialization and cooperation, to narrow the range [as heard] more decisively and to increase serial production.

The engineering and electrical engineering/electronics industries face an important task to ensure, through the full involvement in the international socialist integration, the production of integrated systems and the complex of machines and equipment as well as instruments of the highest technological standard guaranteeing fundamental changes in the technology and organization of production. Only in this way it is possible to achieve a substantial growth in the social productivity of labor and effectiveness of the individual branches of the national economy, enable the application of the qualitatively new kinds of materials and push through a high pace of electronization.

General engineering along with electrical engineering and electronics form the backbone of our industry. A great number, we can say a great army of highly qualified workers, technicians, designers, and other specialists who work in it constitute an important creative potential and many of them are of world renown. Naturally, it is necessary to create also here the corresponding conditions especially for the modernization of fixed assets and technological plants. From the ministries controlling these branches we shall, however, demand that the allocated funds are invested in key, perspective branches, that they work with a high degree of responsibility and with the full awareness of the importance these branches have for ensuring a marked improvement of the quality of products and deliveries of innovated output both for the internal market and for the effective fulfillment of growing export tasks. One must not tolerate instances when the attempts to justify the non-fulfillment of tasks by excuses to the so called objective causes. I do not wish to expand on this, for you already know it well.

To the demands, which we place on the engineering sector, it is necessary also to subordinate the metallurgical production, its structure and range of products, its modernization and reconstruction. We shall proceed along the path of raising the quality and utility of the metallurgical production and of the gradual reduction of the production of pig iron and steel.

We shall continue to devote special attention to providing the national economy with fuel and energy. This is a serious and (?important) task in which nothing must be neglected. We had a real hard winter. You read right and left what kind of calamities it has caused. On the whole, however, nothing terrible happened in our country.

But when we talk about investment, either in nuclear energy or other things, these are sums amounting to billions and requires naturally the work of responsible people. Therefore, it is necessary to think in advance to avoid being caught by weather or anything else. This is why this has also been mentioned in this report.

In the fuel and energy sector, the main segment of our policy is an orientation on saving fuel and energy in all areas of production and consumption and on acquiring new sources of energy. We are economizing, but not enough compared with the outside world; very little, indeed. The power sector itself could save far more.

The development of nuclear energy constitutes one of the most significant structural changes and is at the same time a marked contribution to the resolution of economic problems. It is necessary to ensure that roughly 30 percent of electricity is generated in nuclear power plants by the end of the Eighth 5-Year Plan and at least 50 percent at the end of the century. This will make it possible for us to start a planned reduction of coal mining. We must make more consistent progress than before in the development of the central heat supply. Projects have already been worked out and committed to paper.

In the chemical industry it is necessary to continue in structural changes to promote a more effective processing of crude oil, the dynamic growth of the branch of specialized chemicals and products which are less energy-intensive. We know that we have not been endowed with our own soil resources and therefore we have to import everything and for this reason use it very rationally. It is necessary to pay increased attention to the development of the pharmaceutical industry from the viewpoint of further improving the quality of health care.

The modernization of manufacturing infrastructure, reliable operation of transportation and communications and the development of all branches that influence directly the standard of satisfying the requirements of the population is assuming an ever greater significance, as it stems from the draft Main Guidelines.

The fulfillment of the goals of economic and socil development demands further strengthening and development of the agriculture and food complex, all sectors which have a share in securing the nutrition of the people. A great feat of socialist collectivization which stood up so well to the test of time even in the crisis years -- the care of the party and state for the development of agriculture -- has created the prerequisites for the continued growth of agricultural production, so that industrial methods are increasingly employed. Our socialist agriculture has at its disposal highly qualified cadres and modern technology. When one remembers the time when the cooperatives were being founded and how we agitated for small farmers to be at the head of the cooperative, and the problems that existed, today we see, the successive heads of the United Agricultural Cooperative are graduates of agricultural specialties of this and that; there are gradually more graduate cadres there than in industry, which is good.

This enables us to place greater demands on this sector, to strive for fuller use of its reserves and potential, including the removal of unjustified differences in yield, work, and results of individual enterprises working in comparable conditions. Still, about a quarter or a third of cooperatives and farms lag behind the average. The policy of the party and the socialist state will continue to strive to secure a high level of rational nutrition and increase the amount of our self-sufficiency in food.

We must, however, orient ourselves more toward securing stability in agricultural production. This continues to demand the priority development of plant production, to create vital reserves and all-around care for increasing the fertility of the land and its protection. It is necessary to develop animal production and its structure

in harmony with the needs of the whole of society on the basis of our own sources of foodstuffs and the growing level of their exploitation. Another important demand is that the process of intensification should be more consistently made to be in harmony with efforts to improve the environment and protect nature.

That which is valid for the whole national economy -- that is, the requirement of high cost effectiveness and efficiency -- also fully applies to agriculture. It is also necessary to produce agricultural raw materials and feed more cheaply. The fact that we then sell bread and everything cheaply in the shops seems all right while there is money from state funds; but it is still possible and necessary to produce more cheaply. The need for further intensification and cost-efficiency of agricultural production places considerably greater demands on research and development, on the complex nature and quality of all decisive intensification contributions and on the levels of usage. This must above all be the starting point for our unified agricultural cooperatives and state farms, the agricultural, geological and technical services.

To honor the agricultural workers I have been passed some water. It's very tasty.

The points I mentioned are also valid for the scientific and technological base of the whole agriculture and food complex and the critical supply sectors, in particular agricultural and food engineering, chemistry and the pharmaceutical industry as well as for the relevant planning and management organizations. A highly relevant task is the extending of variety and increasing the quality of food while reducing its perishability. It is necessary overall to achieve greater effective use of agricultural products and food and to more decisively remove the still numerous and various losses. One of the most pressing demands is to shrink the existing disproportion between the growth in agricultural production and backwardness in processing and the storage; food packaging. Agriculturalists or their representatives constantly throw these problems on the table before us.

What we witness in the harvest and processing of sugar beets, the waste of such a precious raw material like milk, the high losses incurred in storing potatoes and the conservation of feed continues to be intolerable and it is high time to remedy the matter. We have adopted important measures for the 8th 5-Year Plan to improve the system of management in the agricultural and food complex. Such measures are intended to strengthen the powers but at the same time increase the responsibility of agricultural enterprises. The number of plan indicators is being reduced; the influence of economic tools is being extended and contractual relations between agricultural production and the processing industry are being applied. The measures constitute an important tool for pushing through the line on intensification, raising effectiveness and profitability of agricultural and food production. These are important changes with economic and political ramifications. At all segments of management, beginning with the planning authorities and ending with agricultural enterprises, it is necessary to implement the principles consistently and comprehensively, to assess the experiences systematically and to react in time to problems as they arise. I would say that this is the most advanced method of planning we have yet introduced in the agricultural complex. The experiences so far have not been bad, but we have to monitor them. Afterwards we shall make an evaluation and perhaps proceed along a similar way in other branches. At the moment however the task is to put these methods into practice consistently.

Comrades! The area of capital construction is one area where it is necessary to increase demands and proceed more resolutely and not tolerate shortcomings. This is a sector in which it is necessary to make decisions with a high degree of political responsibility, to keep the interests of our society and the perspectives for its development constantly in mind. In other words, we have to build more thoughtfully, more quickly, more effectively and with better quality.

We shall spend Kcs900 billion on investment in the 8th 5-Year Plan. This involves enormous amounts in our plans. The advantages of socialist economy must be manifested markedly in their utilization. In principle this requires a reorientation of capital investment from the existing priority on new construction to modernization and rebuilding and to achieving a substantial breakthrough in raising the efficiency of the entire investment process. One cannot tolerate the continual high number of unfinished construction projects, the missing of completion deadlines, cost overruns on building projects and the fact that the new capacities do not perform up to projected parametres. Sometime these figures are shocking.

Investment projects begun in this 5-year plan must be consistently dovetailed to fit our long-range intentions in the area of scientific and technological development and structural changes. It is the ministers, general and enterprise managers, who must be conscious of this above all. It is necessary to much more resolutely liquidate worn out and obsolete machinery for which there is no longer any use. Beginning with the current 5-year plan we must create prerequisites for investing in the services sector and in the entire third sector, particularly in protecting and improving the environment. It is not possible to continue in the dubious practice to which many have grown accustomed in which capital investment funds are demanded and regretably allocated, sometime regardless of real social requirements. And I would only like to give a reminder in this connection that having a priority in capital investment without which one cannot operate -- in no case means having the right to waste resources and to eschew the system of cost-effectiveness. Knowing the right people at the right places and having connections -- this is how investment has often been governed.

We have a sum of money to allocate to the main central problems and which cannot be dispersed to all possible places. Everything requires time and rational consideration. Both the federal and national governments must constantly control the whole area of capital investment and exactingly supervise the implementation of the tasks. It is necessary to work out a program of measures to cause a turn-around in the process of planning, management and implementation of capital investment.

We regard the construction of our capital city Prague as the task of the entire society. It is necessary to take great care here, particularly in implementing measures for securing supplies of energy and heat to the city and for speeding up the building of the basic communication system. In housing construction, which is especially sensitive, it is necessary to achieve greater comprehensiveness, regularity and to go over resolutely to the modernization of the housing stock. We are not very successful in such modernization. Our neighbors, such as the Germans, seem to be more successful, where comprehensive enterprises have been formed for this purpose while we are carrying on like artisans used to 100 or 200 years ago. Of course we cannot go on like this.

We consider building health care facilities -- and I am referring to Prague here -- and a substantial improvement in their level to be an exceptionally important task. We will ensure that Prague continues to evolve as the political, cultural, and social center of our state with an advanced material and technical infrastructure whose modernization must be given great attention.

Comrades, to secure the further dynamic development of the national economy, we must continually improve the system of economic planning and management and gradually restructure the economic mechanism. In keeping with the conclusions of the 16th party congress we have made significant progress in this respect. The proposed course for accelerating social and economic development and intensifying the economy sets new and qualitatively greater demands and requirements for all of this sphere.

We realize that this is an unusually complex problem, it represents a great challenge both to our theoretical and our practical activity. There is no ready-made recipe which can be pulled out of the drawer; we will have to search for one. All the socialist countries are seeking the most effective ways and means to tackle this key problem.

Particularly important for us in this connection are the conclusions of the 27th CPSU Congress. In the interests of the needs of socialist economic integration we must take into account the process of drawing together the systems for managing CEMA. In the development and management of the economy too, we must proceed from the principle of democratic centralism, of improving central management, and of strengthening at the same time the accountability and powers of lower sectors, and especially we must provide all-round encouragement for developing the initiative and incentive of work collectives.

We must place particular emphasis on improving central management and planning, on making it more comprehensive, on enhancing its role in planning and cooperation -- these are among the main tasks of the federal government. As far as the State Planning Commission and other planning agencies are concerned, they will have to contend with the urgent tasks of ensuring that the plans at all levels of management consistently promote the implementation of the stipulated targets, that they are based on the criteria of the greater effectiveness of the whole of society, and that pride of place in the plans is taken by norms and indices which express the qualitative aspects of production, and that these aspects are fostered in the basic interplay between different sectors.

A lot needs to be changed in the work style in the industrial ministries. We must concentrate their tasks above all on ensuring that they administer the sectors under their jurisdiction with a view to the long-term and the overall interests of society, that they abandon the narrow confines of their own sector and commandeering attitudes. Along with this we must apply more effective methods for carrying through the plans to economic production unit and enterprise levels, reduce the number of indicators, and markedly raise the role of economic agreements.

The whole system of management must be based on balanced relations between the central administration and the initiative at the lower sectors. This means that hand in hand with improving central management and planning, we must strengthen the autonomy and accountability of enterprises. Their activity must be based on the full application of khozraschet [cost accounting system] -- as you know, this will hardly be easy. The revenue of enterprises and economic production units must be made fully dependent on the effective use of the assets at their disposal. Effective use of economic methods and management levers -- especially prices, credit, and the long-term economic norms -- and strengthening the role of the whole banking and financial system, must create scope for the application of socialist entrepreneurship.

Great attention must also be paid to improving the organization of the production factors. When solving these problems we must not forget that winning over people's participation and support is the basic prerequisite for success; we must get the broadest strata of working people, whole working teams to participate with great interest and conviction in the effort to achieve the best possible results. The point on which we must focus with more emphasis is the considerable strengthening of state discipline in all links -- top to bottom -- in central agencies as well as in the enterprise sphere. The entire management system must be subjected to constant, effective control. We have enough control agencies; but a special chapter will be devoted to them (?later).

The whole system of management and planning has to exert much greater pressure especially on research and development and the implementation of its results in

production. The demand for research development to be the axis of plans as well as the pivotal link for the work of planning commissions, commissions research and development and investment planning, ministries, and economic production units, enterprise and works, is being implemented slowly.

We have used this approach at one of the CPCZ Central Committee's sessions. Down in factories they asked how can research and development be an axis of management? Naturally, this is not a question of one day, of one resolution, but a long-term or at least a longer action of all components from the government, along the party's political line. This is going slowly so far.

Planning commissions and commissions for research and development and investment planning have to, above all, improve their work. And I do not want to say anymore now, but they do have to improve the quality of their activity a great deal. The priority task of ministries is to draft the strategy of economic and above all of the scientific-technical development and follow up its implementation consistency. Our scientific-technological potential and maturity of cadres, in the basis applied research in research institutes, in the Academy of Sciences, and at high schools is not small. We have scientists who I would say are well known in the world too, and a great number of very practically experienced people in enterprises and elsewhere, but various links do not fit together well and far from all has been done to utilize this potential and to build a creative and demanding spirit these places of work, to make their work produce much greater results. Results vary; some places have zero results; some average -- and we are talking about (?in this sphere) 180,000 people -- this is a great number.

We must achieve, better cooperation and coordination in basic research carried out by the Academy of Sciences and at high schools, purposefully and with great dynamic to develop scientific subjects which will in the next year decisively influence the structural changes, increase the technological and economic standard of individual branches of the national economy, and ensure the growth of labor productivity.

It is necessary to proceed with increased intensity in concentrating capacities and assets; in concentrating the creative efforts of scientists and scientific collectives, aiming at speedier solutions of planned tasks; above all, those tasks that proceed from the Comprehensive Program for Scientific and Technological Progress of the CEMA Member-Countries Until the Year 2000, and from the state target programs.

Our research has to aim at achieving qualitatively new scientific information, especially in the sphere of highly productive technologies, advanced materials, new technology, environmental protection, and health care. It is necessary to aim all-around efforts at the improving the link between science and applied science. Despite all the complaints, achieving harmony is not so complicated. The ministries, general directorates, or sometimes even the enterprises cannot wait passively for the creation of science, but they have to place their requirements -- or orders -- with research; and in many cases the enterprises take such steps. The Central Committee has been discussing these issues at its meetings with increased frequency. However, the implementation of approved conclusions has so far not been progressing in a satisfactory manner. We have expended and we shall continue to expend considerable means on research and developments. These means are relatively comparable with advanced countries; when the size of the country and the population are taken into account, then we rank among the top ones. The effective utilization of these funds is a pressing task. It will be necessary to make a complex evaluation of the purpose and structure of institutions in basic and applied research and their efficiency.

Up to now, they have been developing haphazardly based on their own initiative. And now the time has arrived when we need the highest possible rational structure, even in

this sphere. We also have to create the corresponding organizational, moral, and economic prerequisites for a closer connection between research, development and production, to improve the mechanism of their mutual relations and cooperation. I asked Comrade Riman, new chairman of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences, on his appointment to the post, if possibilities exist of rewarding excellent or outstanding work. He said: They do. [passage indistinct] Are there no such results? There exist even today and as I said, we shall consider it also in the years to come. [sentence as heard]

Czechoslovakia is a country with limited raw material resources, with a developed international division of labor and dependence on foreign trade. This reality requires that in the overall efforts aimed at the improvement of economic mechanism, exceptional attention is devoted to the improvement of the work of foreign trade, to its management and organization. This is above all an issue of expanding contacts between production and foreign trade. We cannot be satisfied with the standard of commercial activity. It is necessary to provide a decisive improvement in this section. One could talk about these problems and shortcomings all night.

The fulfillment of the new tasks will not do without increased participation by working people in management; without wider implementation of such forms, such as team organization of labor and remuneration, which have been tested and praised, but which is still lacking in practice.

The fulfillment of the new tasks will not do without developing and targeting socialist competition at qualitative aspects of economic activity and strengthening the weight of material as well as moral stimuli.

Participation of working people in production management is being implemented in our country by various ways. It is necessary to improve them and purge various instances of formalism. At the same time, it is necessary to examine and use in a creative way what is being implemented in the other socialist countries; to seek it both at home and around us. It is necessary to strengthen the responsibility and competence of workers everywhere, to strengthen the authority of honest, qualified, conscientious work by all means. Each work collective ought to behave as a real master economist, to understand that high technological standards and quality of products, which do justice to the producer and to our state, have to become a basic yardstick in all sectors of production.

The question of the quality of production is not yet an important economic question but also a political one. Yesterday on television, when they spoke with delegates, many comrades touched upon this question as well. Shortcomings in production quality, which continue in no small measure, cause both material and moral losses, they disrupt the rhythm of production and cause justified criticism. It is necessary to say straight out that without a change in this direction it is not possible to fulfill any of the goals we have set for ourselves; nor is it not possible to achieve high productivity and speed up scientific and technical progress. In forming this awareness, mass political work must work more effectively.

It is necessary to become fully aware that without a smoothly functioning system of planning and management, it is not possible to fulfill the demanding tasks which we set ourselves. A basic lead in this for us is the continuous development of socialist production relations based on social ownership of the means of production, the unity of the economic and social policy, the inviolable nature of the socialist principles of management, the orientation of economic activity toward satisfying the needs of society.

Many questions and problems which we are discussing are understandably of a long term nature, which necessarily demands time and means. We can't modernize, import new technology, suddenly and everywhere in all enterprises, not to mention that we have not got very far in production technology. It is therefore necessary to solve all the more decisively such requirements, that is those which do not demand such great investment, such as the rational use of working hours, the production fund, strengthening of discipline, order, organization at individual workplaces, without the cost of a single Kcs to implement this order. For this it is necessary to make much more decisive use of all possibilities which are already being given by the system of management, or those which possibly enable us to work toward this, the applicable laws and legal precedents, to fundamentally improve the direct managerial and organizational work. As has already been said more than once, there are more than a few weak spots in its quality at all levels.

An important question which demands great attention is the rational deployment and use of the labor force. It is said that there are not enough people almost everywhere and then when we look, we see that in many places there is a surplus; but that's not the issue. I point this out also because in the course of the next 15 years there will be almost 850,000 more young people of a productive age, in the 15 years which we are considering in our plan. Securing the right to work and full rational employment is one of the basic advantages of socialism. What does a capitalist do? He introduces new technology and throws the people out on the street; we hear this every day. We will never proceed along such a path and that is why we must think about how the new technology will make use of the labor force and how to employ people properly. We must direct the use of the growth of the labor force in harmony with the realization of progressive structural forces in industry and construction, in increasing shiftwork, which is quite infrequent here, and in particular for strengthening employment in the tertiatary sphere. It is also important to create conditions for greater mobility and more flexible retraining for the labor force; gradually technology will not be pushing people out but I would say limiting them. For this to happen we must considerably increase the process of forward planning, the number of qualified workers, and their training.

Comrades, we attach priority importance to the well-thought out social policy aimed at improving the population's living standards, perfecting social relations, and deepening the realistic humanism of our socialist system. We must always keep in mind improving all aspects of people's lives, be attentive to their needs, to timely eliminate everything which stands in the way of mutual understanding, cooperation, and rapproachment between social classes and social groups of our nations and nationalities.

In improving living standards in the Eighth 5-Year Plan, one of the basic directions is accelerating the tempo of personal consumption and unsuring qualitative changes in their structure. We reckon that wages will increase by 14 percent, while the average nominal wages will increase by approximately 6.5 percent. The increase in wages will be regulated according to the growth of labor productivity -- it cannot be done in any other way if we do not want to start the inflation spiral.

In the sphere of remuneration, we must observe the principle of reward matching merit, whch must be the basic principle in the remuneration sphere. This corresponds to the demands of socialist justice. The basis of improved living standards is to be formed by wages -- reward according to the quantity and quality of work. There are many shortcomings in the implementation of this principle. They manifest themselves above all in wage egalitarism which I would say is one of the greatest problems. Quality work, substandard work -- all is leveled out to an average. And thus it is necessary to strengthen control over the amount of work and for consumption to continue consistently to perfect the economic activity of wage systems and to create an atmosphere which does not allow differences between honest and shoddy work to be wiped out.

Various negative phenomena, speculative trends, attempts to make financial gains without work and justification are serious violations of socialist principles. In a number of places we have a lot of experience with parasites, stealing of property in socialist ownership, bribery, and other negative phenomena against which we must fight decisively and more decisively than until now. We are not speaking about these antisocialist phenomena for the first time. A letter from the CPCZ Central Committee Presidium on increasing the efficiency of the struggle against the violation of the principle of socialist legality, morale, and discipline adopted in February 1983 also aims at eliminating them.

Certain progress has been achieved. In a number of places, however, the necessary consistency is not being exercised. It is necessary to increase party responsibility for the principles of the letter which demands with full emphasis the struggle against all negative phenomena, against the attempts at financial gains without work, against corruption and the misuse of functions, and for the consistent respect and implementation of the principles of socialist morale and legality to be implemented fully in practical life. We are convinced that this principled approach will be fully supported by our whole party, and majority of our people. [applause]

We must return to these questions after the congress.

The system of social security has a permanently important place in our social policy. It is highly developed in our country and is one of the great achievements of socialism; depending of the creation of economic possibilities we shall perfect it further. In the Eighth 5-Year Plan we reckon that we shall spend Kcs 470 billion in this sphere. We shall start work on a program for improving the pension system with the aim of increasing correspondingly the pensioners' living standards. We shall extend the social and care services for old and disabled people. Help to families with children and young newlyweds will be extended further. In this 5-year plan, we shall examine in what conditions holidays are difficult; shift-work in production will be expanded; and some measures which benefit women with small children will be implemented improving working conditions and safety has to remain a permanent task. Such are the plans. Naturally it will always depend on what the available resources are; one depends on the other.

In the future, proceeding from the draft of the main directions, we shall pay great attention to health services. This is an important sphere of social policy and concerns every family, all people.

In this respect we can boast of a number of important successes in preventive medicine, surgery, the fight against epidemic diseases, and other successes. The state invests considerable sums in health care and will continue to do so. We must ensure that we make purposeful and rational use of these funds, that health care and its administration is improved everywhere, and that ethical principles in the health service are consolidated.

Health care must also be accompanied by good health education for the people, especially regarding children and young people. The fact that health services, including medicines, are provided free of charge in the CSSR does not mean that we can waste them. Without altering the principles of our health policy we must seriously consider this question and take measures to counter the waste and abuse of health services.

In the Eighth 5-Year Plan we will also invest considerable funds in education and culture. Here too it is vital to use these funds effectively to develop these spheres.

It is a matter of prime importance that the internal market functions well. This has a marked effect on the satisfaction of the people, on their interest to perform better,

and on the growth in production and labor productivity. On the whole our market is well supplied especially with foodstuffs. There are, however, certain unnecessary shortcomings. Frequently minor items are in short supply but the people need them and have to spend a lot of time trying to track them down, yet these minor items can be produced here.

The Federal Government, the Czech and Slovak Governments and the Czech and Slovak ministries and the central producer and consumer cooperatives must consistently apply themselves to the problems of the internal market, and more vigorously eradicate the causes of shortcomings and negative phenomenon. We must urgently raise the level of work of the ministries of trade and the general directors in this sector to achieve closer cooperation between production and marketing and to improve work organization and make it more flexible in the whole trade system. It is particularly necessary to raise the efficacy of checking honesty and trading standards as well as the quality of goods and the protection of consumers.

During this 5-year period supplies to the domestic consumer market will increase by more than 13 percent. The current level of production makes it possible, on the whole, to provide the necessary quantity and quality of consumer goods and foodstuffs. Great demands are made on the consumer and food industries which must be much more prompt in satisfying the growing demands of the internal market in the required structure and quality and in meeting the demands of all groups of the population. At the same time we will modernize selected production processes and give priority to developing sectors which process domestic raw materials. In order to enrich the internal market we will also increase imports. What is foreign is always said to be better [words indistinct].

A much greater effort must be made to ensure a wider and more varied range of consumer goods. This must be achieved primarily by a more marked increase in supplies which calls for more progressive engineering and electrical products, by improving the production and marketing of furniture, and by ensuring more flexible supplies of fashionable textiles and footwear in sufficient volume.

Closely connected with the problems of the internal market is the sphere of retail prices. The principles of long-term price policy were adopted at the 16th congress. We believe there is no reason to change them. Their essence is the unity of the social and economic role of the price mechanism which should contribute toward safeguarding the harmony between supply and demand, toward maintaining a balanced market. Underestimating any of these aspects creates breakdowns with economic and often political consequences. It is a sensitive area which touches literally everyone. One has to approach it from principled political positions and consistently implement the system of its state management and control. We must respect the simple truth that we cannot produce expensively and sell cheaply, naturally.

Even so, the state provides subsidies and will continue to expend considerable resources on price balance, in particular, in the spheres of food and services. Moreover, it is generally known what a great significance the sphere of unpaid services has in our country -- the sphere of the entire social consumption. What the socialist society can dispose of, what the socialist state can distribute depends on the creation of resources, on good and high-quality work. Price mechanism must provoke production toward faster innovation, to enriching the choice in high quality goods in demand in all the price ranges.

However, one cannot tolerate if and when, under the pretext of innovations, essentially old produce is delivered to the market at higher prices while cheaper widely accessible goods disappear from the market. It seems that kind words and criticism, which are stressed so many times, do not help. It is high time to exert stricter control, to

lead toward responsibility both the producers and the organs which approve of these practices but forget that price machinations do not contribute toward our economy or satisfy the needs of the society. It is necessary to punish strictly every case of cheating and every attempt at deception. At the same time, we must not forget that the CSSR is not an isolated island. We cannot overlook what is happening around us. We will strive so that the impacts of various price vacillations on the world markets are not automatically transferred to the sphere of consumption. That is quite a complicated question.

In the policy of housing construction, it is our fundamental task to build in the Eighth 5-Year Plan 480,000 new apartments and make more pronounced progress in modernizing the available housing. The appropriate national committees must adopt strict measures to stop the housing from being reduced by demolitions, which constitute an exceptionally high percentage. In the interest of order and the efficient and just utilization of the housing fund, we must prepare amendments to the housing law.

Protection of the environment is a pressing problem which has become topical worldwide. Many related questions, cannot be solved purely on a state-wide scale. They constitute the topic of various international talks in which Czechoslovakia is taking an active part. We devote in this 5-year plan in our country at least Kcs17 billion to individual actions aimed at improving the environment. It is more than double in comparison with the Seventh 5-Year Plan. The problems of pollution of the atmosphere and of the waters must be tackled more resolutely. Contributing significantly toward this end will be the structural changes in the fuel and power base. It is necessary to make the criteria for assessing new investments stricter. In the coming years the pressing task of enhancing the construction of water purification stations will present itself. The unfavorable consequences of the chemicalization of agricultural production will have to be significantly reduced. The main attention must be devoted to comprehensive solution of the problems of the environment of the entire regions according to the degree of urgency, in particular in the (?Prague) and the North Bohemian population centers. The environmental protection in the broadest sense of the word, should have a significant role in working out the programs within action "Z". [community self improvement programs]

[At this point there is a 30-minute break, after which Vasil Bilak turns the meeting back over to Husak who then continues his report]

[Husak] Esteemed comrades, one of the foremost tasks of the CPCZ policy is the strengthening of the leading role of the working class and its bond with the cooperative farmers, intelligentsia and the rest of the working people. This bond also forms the social foundation of the unity and further closeness among our nations and nationalities. In party's policy we attach great significance to carefully taking into account the joint interests of classes and social groups as well as those of nations and nationalities of our country so that, under the leadership of the working class, our society might be constantly united. Developing and improving socialist democracy is the lasting guideline of our policy, as is the broadening of participation of the working people in tackling state and public affairs. The more we improve the political system of socialism, whose basis is the power of the people, the more we will strengthen our entire social system and new possibilities for the dynamic development of society will be created. The socialist society has inexhaustible resources in the creativity, initiative and consciousness of the people. Their development and utilization represent the main path towards further strengthening the position of the working masses. It guarantees the rights of man which are inseparably connected with his duties and responsibility toward society. It is the basis of the stability of our state, its true strength. We will continue to deepen it and to protect it.

Achieving a higher degree of development of socialist democracy means, above all, to further develop, on a multilateral basis, the activity of the agencies and organizations united in the National Front, legislative corps and national committees in which the elements of the socialist people's administration in the Leninist sense of the word are applied and deepened. The CPCZ -- the leading political force of our society -- is the uniting force of this process and the basis of its healthy development. The National Front has tested its strength and viability both in the national liberation struggle and in the revolutionary struggle for political power and in the entire period of the socialist construction. We shall see to it that on its broad basis the link among the communists and the nonparty members and the members of other political parties might be deepened, that cooperation among classes, nations and nationalities of the individual social and professional groups might be strengthened. The main aim is that the National Front might even more efficiently contribute toward the growth of the creative participation of the people in the socialist construction, in management and administration, toward creating the socialist way of life. This is the great responsibility of the communists who work in the National Front. The organization of the greatest mass participation, which represents an important force, is the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement which disposes of broad jurisdiction. There exists not a single sphere in which trade unions would not carry out their influence. We appreciate the fact that they organize a broad movement of pledges, socialist competition, introduction of new forms of organization of labor. Trade unions perform great work in educating the working people, in particular the young generation, in protecting their rights, in the care of their working and living conditions and rest. They actively contribute toward strengthening unity of the international trade union movement. The new tasks lay increased demands also on the work of the trade unions. We cannot overlook the fact that in a number of places the practice has been adopted of viewing it in terms of more rights than duties. But there cannot exist one without the other. Trade union organs and organizations must even more actively focus on questions such as discipline and order at workplaces, struggle for just renumeration, against wage levelling and unjustified incomes, the everyday struggle for implementing the results of science and technology in practice, for increasing economies, efficiency and quality of work. On the other hand, some trade union organs do not pay enough attention to caring for the working people's interests and need.

In trade unions it also is necessary to look for more effective forms of labor, to ensure that administrative methods are removed and to improve lively contact between people. We consider the development of the social role of trade unions to be an important part of developing socialist society. We are convinced that trade unions will continue to make a considerable contribution to further economic, social, and cultural development in our society.

We must continue to give great care to the all round development and preparation of the young generation, to make fuller use of their knowledge, ability, and enthusiasm, It is well known how our party places this question fundamentally to the fore, what great importance it ascribes to it. We have emphasized more than once, that the attitude to the young generation is an attitude to the future of our country. The whole of society, the socialist state, the family, school, and work collectives must be aware of this. We must not forget that a characteristic of the psychology of a young person is concentration on the present. In some places we complain about this. It is necessary to encourage youth to correctly understand the past and be responsible for the future. Young people take the gains of the socialist system for granted and look at them critically. It is important that they understand that the path to today led through difficult struggle and selfless work and it will be no different for the implementation of the goals which we set ourselves. It is necessary to lead the young generation to this understanding and approach both by upbringing and by entrusting them with more responsible tasks so that they take a fuller part in the work and life of their country and society.

Much will, however, depend on the young people themselves, on whether they are well prepared and willing to undertake a greater part of responsibility for solving problems, overcoming difficulties, and coming to terms with new tasks.

We have young people who we can rely on and on who we rightly place our hope. This is shown by conscientious, stimulating work in enterprises, agricultural enterprises, at schools, in sport and culture, and in fulfilling responsibilities and duties in their preparation for the defense of the homeland. These good words about our young people, however, must not cover up the fact that a certain section of young people act in conflict with socialist morality and the norms of society.

We cannot overlook phenomena such as a light-hearted attitude to life, to its values, no regard for work, for people including their own parents, various forms of violence and vandalism, even though there is not much of it -- but these elements do exist. At the same time we cannot close our eyes to the fact that the cause of these phenomena is often the bad example of adults. In particular we feel the influence of the capitalist world. It is our foremost duty to protect children and youth from everything which threatens their healthy development and to take care that they are imbued with the values of the socialist way of life.

The family has a key role in the upbringing and formation of a basic character traits of the young person, his feelings and his moral and spiritual values. The party and socialist state will continue to make every effort to ensure that the family forms a healthy base in our society. We must be concerned by the considerable number of divorces among young married people in particular. This highlights the need to give great care to the education of the growing generation for marriage and parenthood.

A faithful helper of the party in its work with the young generation is the socialist Union of Youth. Its activity deserves appreciation and thanks. We expect that it will further deepen its influence on the young generation, particularly on working youth, that it will be even better at expressing and satisfying the interests and feelings of young people and will work using methods which are lively and attractive, free of over organization, over campaigning, and ostentation.

The activity of the Socialist Union of Youth and its Pioneer organization has to be in the foreground of the permanent attention and interest of party organizations and its agencies.

When speaking about the development of the socialist society we must also here at our 17th congress pay a high tribute to the importance and role which is played by women in the political, social, economic, and cultural life and the care for the family and the young generation. I want to stress that in the future we shall consider as an important part of our policy the effort for a greater and greater participation of women in all spheres of life in our society, and for better and more favorable conditions for the fulfillment of their family and motherhood mission.

We appreciate the work of all organizations united in the National Front. We appreciate the contribution which other political parties bring to our common work -- building socialism. The party also hopes in the future for the selfless and highly contributive work of the Czechoslovak Union of Women, the Union of Cooperative Farmers, the Czechoslovak Soviet Friendship Association, the Union of Physical Culture, the Scientific-Technical Society, the Socialist Academy, organizations of our cooperatives, the Union for the Cooperation With the Army, the Czechoslovak Union of Antifascist Fighters. We also attach a great importance to the work of the Czechoslovak Red Cross, the Union of Disabled People, the Union of Fire Prevention Workers, the unions of foresters and fishermen, beekeepers, small animal breeders, gardeners, and stamp collectors. If we put all the organizations together, then in fact the entire society is organized in the framework of the National Front, including young people.

We are convinced that all these organizations and occupational unions will even more actively carry out their important socially beneficial missions.

Comrades, we attach principled importance to the further advancement of the development and strengthening of our socialist state. The time in which we live, the tasks which we face require that its role as the main instrument of the economic and cultural building, the strengthening of socialist order and the defense of socialist achievements, increases. We shall continue to make sure that on the basis of the federal arrangement, there is a further strengthening of the united Czechoslovak state, the fraternal coexistence and cooperation of both our nations and all nationalities which live in our country, the deepening of the internationalist unity of the entire Czechoslovak society. This means the strengthening of the united Czechoslovak economy while utilizing resources and possibilities of both republics. The federal bodies face a task to strengthen their concept and coordination functions in the framework of the federation.

When speaking about the socialist state and its federative arrangement, it is necessary to stress that the time is ripe to work out a new constitution for the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic. A quarter of century has passed since it was adopted. During that time important changes have taken place, development has called for a number of additions in the form of constitutional laws which should be united in one single constitutional document.

In the Federal Assembly of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and in the Czech and Slovak National Councils it is necessary to improve the legislative activity, to make sure that the highest principle of our Constitution -- that all the power comes from the people -- is implemented consistently. Our legal system has to effectively protect the socialist system, the social ownership, to guarantee fully the legal certainties of citizens. The legislative bodies have to contribute more to the control of the executive bodies and to the observation of laws.

The necessity to improve the quality of methods of work, management and control fully concern the federal and the national governments. The successful realization of the strategy of the acceleration of the social and economic development of the society requires that the government focus on the decisive tasks, organize better and control more demandingly the implementation of the adopted resolutions and that their decisions are fulfilled consistently and on time. An important requirement is to improve the management and cohesion of the work of ministries and central bodies of the state administration, to ensure a better coordination of activities of national committees and economic organizations in the development of territorial units.

Every minister must be aware that he is the member of a government which is the executive organ of the power of the people. From this it follows that he must approach the fulfilment of tasks not from the narrow sector viewpoint but from the viewpoint of the interests of the whole of society. In the sector which is entrusted to him, he must secure that the line of the party is correctly developed and unconditionally fulfilled. The implementation of efficient methods of management has the prerequisite that governments be more decisive in removing all bureaucratic barriers, will simplify the structure of state and economic organs and their apparatus.

It is necessary to be more decisive in ensuring that the number of various directives and regulations is limited -- this was the criticism at meetings further down. Practice shows that many of the directives do not help either production or society, but on the contrary make unnecessary complications for life. We will continue to give great care to improving the work of the national committees. Their tasks in management and caretaking will continue to increase. It is vital to develop all round their social calling as the local agencies of state power, to improve the political and

professional level of state administration and to increase the participation of citizens in their work. National committees must make fuller use of the jurisdiction entrusted to them, to secure the complex development of the territory, to more effectively and harmoniously combine the social and local needs and interests, to take more care about the development of education, culture health care, supplies and the running of local transport.

It is necessary to direct the attention of national committees more than is the case to date, so that together with cooperative organizations they look for and make use of all possibilities for the development of services, above all linked with housing. As well as the building of new apartments and securing the corresponding technical and social amenities in housing estates, it is necessary to concentrate forces and means for the reconstruction and modernization of old houses and apartments and the engineering network, for the renewal and livening up of town centers. It is necessary to take greater care of the cleanliness and look of villages and towns. National committees also have great responsibility for public order, for the creation and protection of the environment, to put it briefly, for the creation of better conditions for the life of the people.

The solving of these questions must become a part of the election programs being prepared. Increasing the quality of the work of the national committees is unthinkable without improving the quality of the activity of its elected organs and deputies. This demands that those citizens should be selected for deputies who enjoy authority and respect of the public. We will soon be going into general elections as you know. The national committees organization must have as its basis the fact that it serves the work of the election authorities and the interests of the citizens (?and us also). The whole political system, all its links, must work with the knowledge that it serves the people and our socialist society. Party and organizations must call to responsibility all managers who allow it to happen that people, when sorting out their affairs, come across indifference, bureaucracy, arrogance and suppression of criticism. All that concerns a person, his work and worries must be looked at carefully; to sensitively look at the justified demands, points and suggestions of the citizens is a key political issue. The administration, officials, and agencies must work along all lines in keeping with this principle.

We must care strictly for the reinforcement of socialist legality and emphasize more the promotion of legal awareness. One of the prominent tasks of security and prosecution authorities and courts is to protect our social system, the property in socialist ownership, the rights, freedoms, and personal property of citizens vigilantly and well. We must increase the protection of citizens from people who threaten their safety and strictly prosecute the criminal elements and everybody who violates our law and the socialist order.

We will not allow anyone to violate our laws or undermine our political system and socialist order, including those who hide behind fancy sounding phrases about freedom, democracy, or the so-called struggle for human rights. [applause]

We will continue to devote lasting attention to strengthening the security and defense capability of our socialist alliance with the Soviet Army and the other armies of the Warsaw Pact, and the Armed Forces of the Ministry of the Interior and the People's Militia, receive comprehensive political and specialist training and the necessary equipment to ensure the reliable defense of socialist construction and peaceful life for our people.

Comrades, the political-educational ideological work must be closely linked with the tasks of the coming period. Its aim is to make the best possible active contribution to forming the attributes of a new man; a citizen aware of the socialist homeland, a personality who develops all round and adopts the basis of the Marxist-Leninist

world outlook and the principles of socialist morality and acts in harmony with them. All these noble qualities in man can only be created by active, aware participation in the social and economic changes in which socialist awareness and social relations and socialist way of life are being reinforced and promoted. The history of socialist construction teaches us not to neglect anything in ideological work, not to allow it to become formalistic, to become a form of pseudo-enlightenment which substitutes slogans for arguments. The party makes increased demands on ideological work in the current times in which the mobilization of creative forces of the people is becoming the determining factor for further advancement. Its direction must be connected with the permanent orientation toward the world outlook, moral upbringing and the work ethic and to strive to grasp the strategic course of our economy policy.

The necessity for an accelerated change in our economy forward intensification is really a revolutionary task the historical importance of which equals that of industrialization and the collectivization of agriculture in the past. It is a task linked with the great struggle for the change in thinking and overall psychology of the human being. It is a fight against inertia, and often also against lack of ability and willingness to change the old forms of work and take on new methods that are in harmony with our needs. As in other areas, some priorities must be applied here too. Our times require us to concentrate ideological political work on the profound elucidation of tasks which follow from the social-economic program and to pay the utmost attention to such criteria as conscientiousness, honesty, conscientious attitude to duties, and a feeling of responsibility toward the collective.

It is also our duty to link the explanation of our internal policy much more with the international situation, with the struggle that is taking place between socialism and capitalism. Into the foreground emerges the education in the spirit of socialist patriotism and internationalism. We require more offensive and more specific propaganda. It has to proceed from the given reality, it has to respect the level of political maturity of people, it has to lean on the results of science, on the general experiences of our party and other fraternal parties -- above all, the CPSU. In the ideological work we have to avoid spreading illusions about the easiness of future development, to avoid both false optimism and pessimistic moods, not to be satisfied with the achieved results, not to back away from obstacles but to mobilize to fulfill the tasks.

The struggle for the people's thinking is a complex, long-term process which requires enormous patience. It has to respect the changing conditions it must not adapt to obsolete views and moods but always see or goals and prospects. The persuasiveness of this work derives, above all from its honest link with life, with practice. For example, how can propaganda be efficient when people can see that one thing is being said and something else being done; where words are not followed by deeds. The necessity to improve the quality of our propaganda, to increase its standard and effectiveness -- this proceeds not only from the internal needs of development of socialism but also from the need to strengthen the class struggle on an international scale.

Imperialism steps up the psychological war, unleased against socialist countries, it attempts to put socialist states against each other, above all to turn them against the USSR. It praises some and damns others. It attempts to revive nationalism and chauvinism and even misuses the religious feelings of citizens. We must not forget that the CSSR is one of those countries which is exposed especially to sharp attacks from anticommunist forces -- this is because of the geographical position of our state and many other factors contribute to this. Any lie is good enough for them, as long as they can blacken socialism and belittle the results of the work of our people to falsify the history of our nations. This is not only a short term strategy -- this

is their permanent strategy. This is why it is the permanent task of our theological work to unveil by good argument the false character of campaigns of anticommunist centers. It is necessary to sow convincingly the advantages of the socialist system, socialist democracy, to explain the humane character of our revolutionary ideology and to disseminate the truth about socialism.

The party Central Committee pays and will continue to pay great attention to mass media. The mass media must truthfully and quickly inform us about the life in our country and about events in the world. They have to provide broad information about the work of party, state and economic organs and social organizations. In order for the mass media to fulfil their mission, their duties assigned by the party, they need access to the necessary sources of information. This at the same time increases their social responsibility. It is necessary to more bravely develop constructive criticism among them thus helping to create an atmosphere of high demands on the quality of work and impermissability of shortcomings.

It is important for the press, radio and television to become the true platform of the wide and democratic exchange of views and experiences of the workers, so that these media consistently illuminate the main questions of internal and international life economic and social science. Their activity must be based on the workers' right to know which measures were adopted for the correction of previously criticized shortcomings. It must become common practice for management workers to personally inform the public via press, radio and television, about the activity of the sector which they manage and about the solutions of tasks and to answer the questions which are of interest to the people. This is in full harmony with the Leninist principle of keeping the general public informed. This of course means not only propaganda for their sector but also setting out the problems or shortcomings of their sector.

It is necessary to increase the political and professional training of journalists, to improve the cadre composition of editorial offices and to ensure that morally strong people, dedicated to the cause of the party and people and to developing the best traditions of our revolutionary journalism work in the media. Party press headed by RUDE PRAVO must be an example of Leninist principles, the spirit of struggle and noncompromise in putting forward the party's policy. The effective use of the ideological potential of the press, radio and television necessarily demands the development and strengthening of their material and technical base. They often complain that this material and technical base is insufficient, that it must be strengthened. We agree with this. The resources will gradually grow, science and technology are progressing very fast in this area.

It is important for socialist society, which is being built on the basis of the scientific world outlook, consistent understanding and use of the natural law of social development, to develop the social sciences. Experiences show that the more objective laws of social development are respected in political practice, the more successful is the building of socialism. The social science front must analyze the life of our society with greater daring and consistency in order to direct its efforts for working out the concepts and proposals which would serve for the speeding up of the social economic development, improve the quality of the political system and perfect the economic mechanism, forward planning and further social development. There are still a lot of shortcomings. An important task for the social sciences is their growing share in the strengthening of the socialist awareness of our people, particularly the young generation, in the education and formation of socialist man.

In this connection I would like to point out the importance of historical sciences, and the need for their further development. It is a matter of making use of their results in order to explain the progressive traditions of our people, and to understand socialism as the natural culmination of the revolutionary struggle of the workers for national and social freedom, for patriotic and internationalist education.

Demanding tasks face the Institute of Marxism-Leninism of the CPCZ Central Committee and the party political college. We expect that these workplaces will increase their contribution to the creative development of Marxist-Leninist theory and for the preparation of cadres for party practice and for the social science area in harmony with new needs.

Comrades, in implementing the program for the further development of socialist society, the role and responsibility of our education system is increasing. Its mission is to prepare our young people for life and work, to foster in them a love for their socialist homeland, respect for their parents and for the values created by previous generations, to encourage them to be hardworking, honest and responsible to society. Such an education imprints on young people lasting respect for their teachers and school.

In the education system, which we are gradually improving in terms of organization and content, it is vital to continue to react even more promptly to the present and future needs of the development of our society. The task of guiding young people to assimilate in a creative way the findings of science and technology is becoming the focus of attention, especially in the field of electronics and other skills of the future. To this end, schools must also be equipped with the necessary up-to-date technology. It is an important task to train and educate the young generation of manual workers. Although a great deal of useful work has been done in this sphere -- you know the changes that have been carried out -- we must not let up in any respect. In ensuring an all-round specialist education it is necessary to place much greater emphasis on the level of practical skills and abilities. The vital test which will face graduates of secondary vocational schools is how skillfully they will master their profession. Care for the education and training of future manual workers is one of the primary obligations of senior managers and officials, and of those organizations and institutions for which they are being trained.

As far as universities are concerned, it must be stressed that they bear great responsibility for training qualified specialists for the national economy and for other spheres of the life of society, and in seeking out and training talented people for scientific work. They must also work more actively to apply the findings of science and technology in practice, something we have already spoken about.

In our society, it is said that the teaching profession enjoys great respect. The vast majority of our teachers strive very conscientiously to ensure that our schools turn out graduates with specialist education and committed citizens. For their responsible work, we will continue to create the necessary material and social conditions to strengthen the social importance and attraction of the teacher's profession for men, too, in order to balance out the present prevalence of women in our education system.

The fact that our society is entering a further important stage of its development sets important tasks for culture and art too, which have an important role to play in enriching spiritual life, and in developing the creative forces and abilities of the people, and their ideological and moral development.

The role of culture in the conditions of socialism is to serve the interests of the people. Our aim is to ensure that the creative work of our artists reflects socialist reality truthfully and in a highly artistic way, and that in the spirit of the creative methods of socialist realism it shows the determination of our people to master their tasks and overcome the obstacles on the road to building socialism. This is what must inspire the work of our creative intelligentsia, especially that of the young generation; it is to this end that the system of support, recognition, and dissemination of art must be directed.

Our assessment of our culture and art is generally positive. This does not mean, however, that we cannot see in this sphere a series of weak points. There are certain worrying phenomena. The party does not prescribe the forms, methods and subject matter of artistic creation, but neither will it support anything which is detrimental to good taste or distorts our socialist reality.

Communists in the creative associations, in publishing houses and in the field of artistic criticism must exert a more effective influence on art in harmony with party policy and with the fundamental values of socialism.

We will continue to place much greater demands on cultural, educational and artistic leisure activities. This is an important element in the way we use our free time and in developing the socialist way of life.

Comrades, the main aim of the Czechoslovak foreign policy remains creating favorable external conditions for the construction of advanced socialist society. The authority and influence of Czechoslovakia in the world spring from the successful all-round development of our society, from the firm position of our state in the socialist community. The development of economic and spiritual potential increases the contribution of our country in the struggle for peace, in tackling the fundamental questions of the present day -- doing away with the danger of a nuclear war, achieving international security and disarmament.

At the moment, there is a clash in current world politics between two contradictory trends and in the approach toward the question of war and peace. As a consequence of this fact, owing to the aggressive militaristic policy of imperialism, the international situation is tense and threatens the very existence of mankind. In an attempt to weaken socialism, to achieve military strategic preponderance, to carry out a social revenge, the imperialist circles, above all those in the United States, are escalating the arms race, including the effort at the militarization of space. They would like to diktat from the position of strength, their will to state and peoples, to prevent progressive development in the world. Opposed to this adventurous line is the consistent peace policy of the USSR and the other socialist countries, aimed at stabilization of international relations, continuation of the policy of relaxation, halting the arms race and disarmament. Socialism, as was stressed by Comrade Mikhail Gorbachev at the 27th CPSU Congress, I quote -- resolutely rejects war as a means of solving political and economic contradictions between states and ideological disputes. Our ideal is a world without arms and without violence, the world in which every nation may freely choose the path of development as well as their own way of life. End of quote. [applause] It is from this indisputable truth that the program of peace, adopted at the 27th CPSU Congress, is stemming. It is a concrete and complete program whose aim it is to free the world from nuclear chemical weapons and weapons of mass destruction, to establish lasting peace cooperation between peoples and states with differing social systems and to build a fundamental concept of a complex system of international security. It is a realistic comprehensibility for future fates of human civilization. Peace-loving and progressive people all over the world accept it by their positive attitude and support. The peace program of the USSR creates a unique opportunity for mankind: if the peoples are to enter a new millenium without apprehensions as to their future, this historical opportunity must not be wasted. Our party, the entire Czechoslovak people fully back this program. [applause]

We shall utilize all our means and possibilities in order to contribute, as efficiently as possible, towards implementation of this great peace perspective. The international peace-loving public welcomed the renewed dialogue on the summit level between the USSR and the United States. It is connected with the hope that the world without wars is realistic, that it is possible to avert the threat of a nuclear catastrophy.

What is important now is that actions should follow words. The USSR is following precisely this path. It has proved by its concrete initiatives and unified measures, including the moratorium on all the nuclear explosions. The whole world is now justly asking the question whether and when a realistic and responsible approach towards solution of the decisive international problems will prevail also in the United States. The present attitude, as well as the practical steps of the U.S. Administrations show that the ruling circles of the United States, for the time being, are not willing to embark on the path of nuclear disarmament. As you know, the new nuclear explosion, carried out currently, has alarmed the entire peace-loving public. The reality of the present-day world, however, cannot be ignored. It shows clearly that one cannot win a nuclear war or the arms race. Against the aggressive militaristic circles there rises the constantly strengthening potential of peace forces. That is why the first and foremost task of our foreign policy remains strengthening friendship, constant development and deepening cooperation with the fraternal socialist countries, above all with the USSR.

Without the socialist community one cannot tackle a single question of the world politics today. Stemming from this is also our coresponsibility for strengthening its unity and coherence, based on the joint Marxist-Leninist ideology and on the principles of socialist internationalism, our coresponsibility for its further dynamic growth, for successes of socialism in peace competition and in the competition with capitalism. Coming to the forefront is the need for speedy and all-round utilization of the advantages of socialism, both in the individual countries and within the framework of the entire community. This requires searching for new, more efficient forms of cooperation in all spheres: political, economic, scientific-technological and ideological. This also means improvement of the mechanism and methods of activity of the Warsaw Treaty and the CEMA in the interest of safeguarding defense; coordination of foreign policy and all-round development of the socialist economic integration. Our present path of the socialist construction has demonstrated the principled and lasting significance of the alliance, friendship and cooperation with the USSR for vital interests of the Czechoslovak people and for safeguarding security of our state. This tie, based on mutual respect and understanding and on the identity of views between our communist parties on all the fundamental questions, represents for us not only a revolutionary heritage, but also a living present, it is not only a matter of reason, but also that of heart. [applause] It is a safeguard upon which we rest all our plans and perspectives.

We attach great significance to the solidarity and cooperation of all the socialist countries. We are prepared fully to normalize and develop the relations of friendship and cooperation with the People's Republic of China. We are for further deepening and developing equal relations and all-round cooperation with the countries which have freed themselves from colonial oppression and have embarked on the path of independent development. These countries now represent over two thirds of the states on our planet, over 50 percent of the population of the whole earth lives in these states. We consider the liberated peoples as friends and partners in the struggle for the sake of peace and progress. Together with them, we shall strive for doing away with the dangerous points of tension and for a reconstruction of the international economic relations on just democratic foundations.

The Czechoslovak people will continue to stand firmly on the side of the peoples struggling for their true independence. We resolutely condemn all forms of colonialism, neocolonialism, racism and apartheid. We appreciate the role played in this struggle by the Nonaligned Movement. By their anti-imperialist attitudes, struggle for the eradication of nuclear weapons and doing away with the danger of war and by their significant initiatives, the Nonaligned Movement actively helps in tackling acute international problems. Imperialism, in its aggressive global strategy, profits from the ill-fated heritage of colonialism. It abuses the economic dependence and the

huge indebtedness of the developing countries, it provokes conflicts, it provokes contradictions and sows mistrust among peoples. International monopolies shamelessly escalate the exploitation of the natural and other resources of the developing states. They would like to make them into permanent raw material appendage of imperialism and into the source of financing their own militaristic policy. At the same time, they cover their hegemonistic ambitions with the shield of protection of the so-called vital interests of theirs. For this purpose they use the most varied means, from political, economic and military pressure, from organized support of counterrevolutionary forces and dictatorial anti-popular regimes to the policy of state terrorism and direct military intervention.

We are deeply convinced that the attempts at halting the progressive development in the developing world are doomed to failure. We want to develop our relations with the capitalist countries on the basis of equality, mutually advantageous cooperation and noninterference in internal affairs. We advocate open, honest and fruitful dialogue which would contribute towards creating mutual trust, strengthening international security and towards strengthening the process of relaxation in the spirit of the concluding act of the Helsinki Conference. Incompatible with this are any demonstrations of pressure, discrimination, sanctions or embargo. We also condemn the revanchist voices calling for a revision of the frontiers and of the post-war arrangement in Europe. We hold the view that even the most complicated problems between the capitalist and socialist countries can be solved by means of negotiations and that strengthening the stability and trust between the European states would contribute to progress at the Vienna talks and the Stockholm conference. With the good will of all the participants in these meetings there exists a possibility to achieve, within a short period of time, concrete positive results. This would create prerequisites for utilization of new, more intensive forms of all-European cooperation in all spheres -- political, economic, scientific-technological, power and transport, culture, education and health care. It would also make it possible more actively to tackle the serious problem of protection of living environment. There is need to make a speedy transition from the exchange of views and multilateral examination of this question to joint solutions and agreements. Security in Europe would, no doubt, be strengthened also by implementing the joint initiatives of Czechoslovakia and GDR to create a chemical weapons-free zone in Central Europe. We shall win over further political forces and governments for the support of this proposal.

We fully support the UN, which plays a significant role in strengthening international security and solving global problems of the development of human civilization. By our active participation both in the UN and in the other international organizations we shall contribute towards their successful activity in strengthening peaceful cooperation and understanding among peoples.

The international communist and workers' movement represents a significant political force in the struggle for peace, against the policy of imperialism and for the social transformation of the world. We consider it our duty to support every initiative aimed at strengthening class solidarity between the fraternal parties, equal cooperation in the struggle for our joint aim, for peace and socialism, in respecting the different nature of tasks and conditions of activity of the individual parties. Differences of views on this or that question are not considered unnatural. They stem from the differing conditions of the activities of the individual parties, from the different approaches towards problem solution. In the interest of our joint progress, we consider it necessary to develop bilateral relations, as well as multilateral forms of cooperation, whether on the regional or broader basis. Protecting mankind from a nuclear catastrophy, as well as solution of other problems of a global character, including protection of living environment, requires the activity and the united approach of the working class and the rest of the working people, and the cooperation of all the progressive and democratic forces. The CPCZ will continue to develop and

deepen, in this direction, the active dialogue and cooperation with the social democratic and socialist parties, with the trade union movement, with all the democratic forces advocating the policy of relaxation and peace cooperation between peoples. The ideological differences existing between us and these forces cannot represent an obstacle on the path toward averting war.

We consider the peace and anti-war movements as an important factor of international policy. We will continue to create prerequisites so that the Czechoslovak peace movement can take an even more active part in the struggle of the world's peace and anti-war forces. In our foreign political activity we will always be aware of the basic interests of the Czechoslovak people, of the socialist community, of everything which contributes to social progress and peace in the world. This line emerges from the very foundation of the socialist system. Socialism, social progress and peace are indivisible. [applause]

We look to the future with optimism. Despite the heightened tension in the international situation we are convinced that peace will be preserved. A guarantee of this is the unity of the socialist community, the cooperation and coaction with all progressive and realistic forces in the world. [applause]

Esteemed comrades, today when we evaluate the results achieved in the past years, when we stand faced with the task of discussing and setting the direction for further building of a developed socialist society, when we concern ourselves also with the more long term outlook of our effort up to the year 2000, we are once again aware of that the CPCZ means for our people, for our nations. [applause]

The historic importance of its birth 65 years ago stand out precisely when we look at the deep changes which took place in the past 40 years in the life and standing of the working person in our country, and in connection with that, which characterizes our socialist present and which enables us to set even more demanding tasks and plans for the future. If we recall at our congress the historic importance of the birth of the CPCZ, we can state with joy, that after 65 years the greatness of this act is confirmed both by the victorious struggle with capitalism and fascism, and above all by the successful building of socialism and the building of a developed socialist society. There were also failures and defeats on our path, but never, not even at the most difficult time, did communists cease in their just struggle for the life interests of the working class and other workers, for a better future of the nations of Czechoslovakia. [applause]

There is direct continuity between May 1921 and the socialist event. History confirms that without the Marxist-Leninist party we could not have achieved past or present results. We are rightly proud of our party, proud of the fact that we are members of the revolutionary avant-garde, which saw and continues to see today the meaning of all its activity in the service of the working man, care for his benefit, effort for progress and peace. [applause]

We are aware that the party cannot simply live on political capital gained in the past. It is necessary to continually renew the trust of the working people in its policy on the basis of solving present problems and fulfilling program goals. We will consistently continue in the realistic, honorable, and open policy which has always been the basis of the firm link between the party and the people. The present period, too, the complexity and newness of the tasks call for the development of a great political struggle, for its implementation. It will depend above all on the party, on party bodies and organizations, on every Communist, on their endeavors, selflessness, on the creative atmosphere, which they have to create to enable us to master this struggle successfully.

The CPCZ today constitutes a mighty political force enjoying great authority and confidence of the people. 1,675,000 Communists form a great army operating in all segments of the life of our society. The proof of the attractiveness of the party's policy is the continuing influx of new forces into its ranks. The working core of the party has strengthened markedly. Workers and cooperative farmers today form more than 50 percent of the membership base. Communists up to the age of 35 constitute one third. Thus, the young guard is growing in our party, which will continue to build the socialist society.

The Central Committee regards the care for party's health, for improving further the quality of the membership base, social and age structure, the strengthening of its political, organizational, and ideological unity, the growth of its moral authority as the task of utmost primacy. The duty to look after the revolutionary and pure profile of the party, the good name of a Communist ranks among the most important legacy of the history of our party, the most important conclusion, which we also drew from the crisis-ridden development at the end of the sixties.

When accepting people into the party, we cannot dispense with the requirements that are placed on communists. We must care in particular to ensure that people of good character, people from all social strata, above all from the production sector and from other branches, which are of prime importance for the acceleration of the socio-economic and spiritual development of society, people who are resolved to dedicate their lives and work for our ideals, join our party. We must rid ourselves resolutely of those who by their conduct disparage the name of a Communist and harm our party. At the same time we have to see that a Communist is shaped in everyday work, in the way he appropriates and champions party's policy and our revolutionary ideology.

During the pre-congress discussion the support was created for the draf amendments to party's statutes. The Central Committee received numerous stimulative suggestions and recommendations, which have been carefully considered and used, according to their importance, in working out the final draft. The purpose of the amendments we are submitting to the congress is to help ensure that the statutes correspond to new requirements so that the party is able to more effectively apply its leading role; that the role of party bodies and organizations and the responsibility of each Communist is increased; and that the party's controlling function is reinforced.

The debate on the proposed amendments to the party has drawn attention to one more important thing. The Central Committee, its bodies, regional and district committees of the party and primary organizations must not eschew important comments, which have pointed at the need to work better and more systematically with the party statutes, not to tolerate their violation and to draw the necessary conclusions in regard to anyone who does not conduct himself as a Communist. Today, when we are raising demands on all sectors on the work of Communists, openness of conduct, which includes truthfulness in the assessment of the situation; ability to see both shortcomings and mistakes; broad degree of information; and regular rendering of accounts; are of special importance.

It is necessary to create conditions in party organs and organizations for broad participation of the Communists in solving problems, for constructive exchange of views and experiences, for critical analysis of the result of work. It is necessary on an all-round basis to implement Leninist principle of collective leadership and personal responsibility. This requires increasing the quality of work and enhancing the role of the elected party organs, their plenary sessions and members' meetings. It is necessary to take care that decisive questions be included in the agenda of party discussions; that burning issues not be avoided; that working people be acquainted with the results of talks. Inner party life must be resolutely freed from formalism,

from fruitless meetings and discussions; party activity must not be measured by the number of meetings and various activities, but by practical actions and concrete results. That is why we lay such stress on party talks having a matter-of-fact working character; on them providing Communists with a clear orientation for their activity; and on spurring them to greater activity.

Let me say a few words in this connection about criticism and self-criticism. We fully identify with what was said at the 20th CPSU Congress [as heard], in the political report delivered by Comrade Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev, stressing in it that, I quote, where criticism and self-criticism fall silent, where there is [words indistinct] too much talking about successes, the entire life of the party is deformed, an atmosphere of self-satisfaction is created, an atmosphere of power and unpunishability which leads to very serious consequences, end of quote. Without criticism and self-criticism one cannot conceive of full development and the right atmosphere necessary to reveal shortcomings and mobilize the forces to overcome them. The party statutes oblige us never to allow the suppression of criticism. Cases where people are persecuted for criticism must be considered very strictly. One must always bear in mind that people's must not be treated haphazardly. Criticism fulfills its task if it is followed by self-criticism and the correction of mistakes and shortcomings. We see in communist criticism and self-criticism a natural component of the inner-party life, indispensable instruments in building advanced socialist society. However, this has nothing in common with demagogy, invalidating honest work and attacking honest people. It is necessary to boldly pillory malpractices but is equally necessary to stand boldly in defense of the right cause, against slanderers, various authors of anonymous letters, and so on. [applause]

Fulfilling party resolutions is a question of principled significance which we must pay much greater attention to, ranging from the Central Committee to the primary organizations. There are still many shortcomings in our work in this area. One must say that not everyone works conscientiously and dedicatedly, not all party, state, and economic organs develop their activity according to the demands of the time. Work with resolutions often meets with inconsistency, with cases where personal responsibility is not specified in setting out tasks and with a lack of check-ups on task fulfillment. Such a situation, naturally, does not bring concrete results at work. That is why it is necessary to lay great stress on the consistent implementation of the resolutions adopted. In principle, we must increase the standard and efficiency of control and check-ups in the entire political and mangerial activity. Where this is underestimated shortcomings develop into serious material and political moral damage.

Unfortunately, there is still too much tolerance of shortcomings and not enough bravery to draw conclusions from them according to the party rules and laws. Party bodies, above all, have to turn control into a constant instrument of party leadership, not allow any opportunism in the control. No one at any function, any post, at any section cannot be protected against control. The relevant party organizations and workers must be informed about the results and the adopted measures. This is also a way to resist the spread of various slanders about people and about (?attitudes) toward politics.

We continue to attach an important role to control and auditing commissions at all levels of the party. They have done a great deal of work in the past period and, taking into account the tasks which we face, they also have a great deal to do in the future.

In the whole period of the socialist construction our party has paid great attention to cadre policy. It has educated many able, committed socialist, and successful

workers in all sections of social life. With the new tasks, with the decisive implementation of the strategic course toward accelerating the socioeconomic development, and raising our society as a whole, the demands must be increased on the selection, education, and placing of cadres and the control of their work. The yardsticks which were enough yesterday are not good enough today. Furthermore, we must not overlook the fact that the activity of a number of leading workers suffers from routine, inertia, laziness and red tape. It is known that the political maturity, specialized training, and moral and upright features of cadres decide on the successful approach to fulfilling tasks. Only such a leading worker who is able to react to new needs, is able to think independently and creatively, take responsibility, be demanding of himself and others, and have a principled and tactful attitude toward people can fulfill his duties well. This is the core of the Leninist style of work. We must have able people, competent people, communists, nonparty members and members of other political parties in responsible positions. We have such leading workers and they are in majority. The party respect them and will support them.

In the period after the 16th congress there have been changes of leading cadres in the party and other sections too. To illustrate this, I can say that since the 16th congress almost one-third of secretaries and more than 45 percent of leading secretaries of district committees have been replaced. At the level of regional secretaries the replacement of secretaries is more than 40 percent. At annual members meetings, in primary organizations last year, 23 percent new members of committees were elected and more than 15 percent new chairman. At district conferences, 36 percent of members and candidate members of district committees were replaced and also at regional conferences one-third of members and candidates of regional committees have been replaced. Concerning the state and economic section: In the past 5 years more than 45 percent of various cadres have been replaced in the higher party bodies. These changes concerned deputy ministers, heads of sections at ministries, managerial workers in middle management, directors and deputy directors in the enterprise sphere and in enterprises. I say this only because a lot is being said about some kind of stagnation in cadre policy. As you can see there is a considerable movement. We support a healthy stability of cadres and at the same time their rational replacement when this is required by life and work.

Our current tasks mean that we must seek out capable and talented cadres more boldly and on a wider scale, integrate mature and qualified workers unqualified and inexperienced young people. In the ranks of our working class, cooperative farmers and intelligentsia, capable people are growing up, people on whom we can rely in this respect. We must give them the necessary attention and also ensure that care is increased for the training and placement of women in official posts. We have adequate educational institutions for the training of cadres, including party institutions such as the CPCZ Central Committee's higher political school.

We must continue to bear in mind the need systematically to raise both the specialist and political and ideological training of management. The rapid development of scientific knowledge and the promotion of scientific and technical progress calls for consistent retraining and an increase in the political and specialist qualifications of cadres. We must ensure that they assimilate Marxist-Leninist theory and party methods of work. This counters the danger of over-specialization, and of the unthinking following the practice, it is a guarantee of a wide-ranging political outlook and high standards of knowledge.

In cadre work the guiding principle must be that along with the responsibility and power of every functionary, duties and the demands made of them also increase. The higher the position, the greater the importance of this principle. The party bodies and organizations must act in a principled way against violation of the party statutes, socialist morality, legality and discipline, and must take strict measures where this occurs, even to the point of expelling from the party those people who commit these violations. People who confuse the execution of their duty with the right to promote

their own interests and to abuse the authority entrusted to them for their own ends have no business to occupy the post or even to be in the party. [applause]

Our attention to cadres and the increased demands made of their work and behavior stems from the fact that it is primarily through them that the party promotes its leading role. Nowhere must we lose sight of the fact that people often judge the whole party by the activity and behavior of any specific party official. The fact that the party has the leading role in our society means that its leading bodies also assume responsibility for ensuring that this role is correctly implemented. One of the main conditions for this is the activity of all the party organizations. The 47,000 primary organizations represent a sufficiently broad base for the party to act in the every sphere of the life of society. The party bodies must base all their activities on these basic elements of our party, they must ensure that their autonomy is increased in tackling tasks and problems. Therefore we must set great store on ensuring that the primary organizations are not burdened by large quantities of often unnecessary directives, but that they are guided to carry out truly vital work with the people.

Implementing the leading role of the party means that the party political leadership should not be confused with the specific management of the state and economic sectors. These are different activities and they must not be substituted one for the other. In practice, however, we often see that some party bodies and organizations unjustifiably take over the tasks and duties of state and economic bodies. The leading role of the party is not enhanced by this, on the contrary it is dissipated. The challenging nature and the complexity of our new tasks means we must ensure that the leading role of the party is strengthened, and at the same time that its responsibility increases for creating scope for the work of the state, economic and social bodies and institutions, and encourage party control of their work.

Party bodies and organizations at all levels from top to bottom must be more vigorous in demanding that communists in management carry out party policy in the sector entrusted to them, that they promote the interests of society as a whole; they must regularly assess their work and performance of their tasks, draw their attention promptly to errors and shortcomings, and demand remedies.

There are also cases in which the party committee is more of a tool of a senior managerial worker or somewhere else in a different sector [as heard] than a political body promoting the party policy. This reduces the political initiative of party bodies, limits their possibilities to affect the work collectives and strengthens the trend toward technocratism. The leading role of the party is made more effective by a degree of richness of internal life of the party and by consistency with which the Leninist principle of democratic centralism is observed as it is the source of vital energy of the party and it puts together wide democracy, free exchange of views with responsibility and high degree of discipline.

We communists are the members of combat movement for a better, socially more just world. In this sense we strive for further strengthening of political, organizational and ideological - action unity of the party which is the fundamental prerequisite for the implementation of exacting plans which are discussed at our congress. In this rests the vanguard role of the party in the society. It is manifested in particular by concrete work, in the unity of word and deeds, in daily contact of communists with the other working people, at workplace and at home in the ability to tackle creatively new tasks, to overcome contradictions in social development, in the struggle for social justice, for dynamic advancement forward. Communists must be prepared for such activity in the ideological and political aspect and the general public must be widely and correctly informed about our intentions and the implementation of our policy.

Our party policy is honest and it expresses the interest of our working people and leans on their support. Methods of work with people must be in harmony with this:

They must be based on trust of working man, his creative potential and his determination to make the best possible contribution to the further building of socialism in our homeland.

Comrade Delegates. The building of socialism and its further successful advancement is convincing proof of the correctness of party policy. Socialism is deeply rooted in our country forever. The dreams of the pioneers of socialism and the founders of the CPCZ and of the generations of communists that waged the struggle for the rights of working people against capital, against fascist suppression, and for national liberation, who were fighting for and laying down the basis of building socialism in our homeland, were fulfilled. Our party remains faithful to their revolutionary bequest. [applause]

It fulfills and develops it by the effort to further advance our socialist society. With this awareness, the Central Committee is presenting the 17th CPCZ Congress with the report on its activity for the past period and the draft of the program of further construction of advanced socialism in our country for the next 5-year plan with the view to the year 2000. We are convinced that the deliberations of the congress will have an open, concrete, and creative character, and that it will be filled with the determination to tackle new tasks which we encourage at the congress. Our firmness is multiplied by the awareness that the program which we are setting for ourselves is in harmony with the basic interests and desires of our working people and is fully in keeping with the struggle of the revolutionary and progressive forces of the world to secure social progress and lasting peace. We are reinforced by the awareness that our country is a firm part of the socialist community, the broad anti-imperialist front; and that we are implementing our demanding plans in the unbreakable fraternal cooperation with the Soviet Communists and the Soviet peoples. [applause]

Every time new tasks arose, our party showed the ability to mobilize its forces and the forces of the wide circles of the public for their implementation, and it proved itself in its historical calling as the vanguard of the working class and the working masses. We are convinced that it will not be otherwise in the present. The selflessness, awareness, zeal, and decisiveness with which communists will stand at the head of the great struggle for the implementation of the programs that we will adopt at this congress will play a decisive role. [applause]

We believe that the program of the 17th CPCZ Congress will become a huge force which will inspire our people to new upsurge of honest and selfless work in the struggle for new successes in the building of a developed socialist society.

Long live our people, may our dear home and the Czechoslovak socialist Republic flourish. [applause]

May the friendship and alliance, the unity and cooperation of states of the socialist community grow in strength. [applause]

May the solidarity and cooperation of fraternal communist and workers' parties strengthen in the struggle for social progress and peace. [applause]

May the cooperation with all peace-loving and democratic forces of the world the struggle for the aversion of the threat of war, for the strengthening of trust and cooperation between nations deepen. [applause]

Let the unbreakable friendship of our nations with the nations of the Soviet Union continue to develop. Long live the Soviet Union and its glorious Leninist communist party. [applause and chanting]

Long live the revolutionary vanguard of our people, the CPCZ. [applause and chanting]

LEADERS RECEIVE VISITING FOREIGN DELEGATIONS

Husak Receives CPSU Delegation

LD251430 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1130 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The CPCZ Central Committee general secretary has met with the CPSU delegation to the 17th CPCZ Congress, which is headed by Mikhail Solomentsev, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the CPSU Central Committee Party Control Committee.

He acquainted the Soviet comrades with the creative activity of the Communists and all Czechoslovak working people, which has been launched in honor of the 17th party congress. He stressed that the participation of the CPSU delegation in the debate of the congress yet again provides evidence of the indestructable friendship, steadfastness of fraternal ties and wide all-round cooperation between the two communist parties and countries. Comrade Gustav Husak voiced a conviction, that just like the 27th CPSU Congress, the 17th CPCZ Congress will also contribute to further deepening of the all-round Czechoslovak-Soviet cooperation.

Mikhail Solomentsev conveyed to Gusav Husak the greetings of the CPSU Central Committee and Mikhail Gorbachev, CPSU Central Committee general secretary, and wishes for the successful proceedings of the 17th CPCZ Congress and success in the implementation of the conclusions, which will be adopted by the congress.

He informed him about the enormous response among the Communists and all Soviet people to the results of the 27th CPSU Congress, which worked out Party's general strategy for the acceleration of social and economic development of the Soviet Union and for the preservation and strengthening of peace. Comrade Mikhail Solomentsev noted that the main attneion of the CPSU Central Committee and the party as a whole is now focused upon practical implementation of the conclusions of the congress.

The meeting, which was attended by Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, was carried out in the traditional cordial and friendly atmosphere.

Bilak Meets Indochina Delegates

LD260942 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 0400 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Vasil Bilak, member of the Presidium and secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, has met heads of delegations of the People's Revolutionary Party of Laos, the People's Revolutionary Party of Kampuchea, and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan.

In the course of a cordial comradely conversation, questions of mutual relations and the further development of cooperation between the CPCZ and these parties were discussed. Comrade Bilak, on behalf of all Communists and all Czechoslovak working people, paid tribute to the successes of the peoples of Laos, Cambodia, and Afghanistan in the building of new societies, and expressed solidarity with their struggle against international reaction and imperialism.

The heads of the delegations expressed gratitude for the support which Czechoslovakia gives their countries and wished our people successes in the implementation of the decisions of the 17th congress.

Comrade Bilak also received the head of a delegation of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. He condemned the new provocative aggressive action of the United States against the sovereignty of Libya and on behalf of Czechoslovak people expressed full solidarity with the struggle of the Libyan people against international imperialism and reaction.

The head of the Libyan delegation expressed thanks for the Czechoslovak support for Libya and wished our people successful fulfillment of the conclusions which the 17th party congress will adopt.

CHNOUPEK DISCUSSES CZECH FOREIGN POLICY

LD242353 Prague CTK in English 1826 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Prague March 25 (CTK) -- Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Bohusalv Chnoupek stressed the peace character of the Czechoslovak foreign policy at a press conference for foreign journalists accredited at the 17th Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

He pointed out that the international situation is still tense, because of the aggressive militaristic policy of imperialism headed by the United States: he reiterated Czechoslovakia's view that the present-day world problems must be solved by political means. "We support fully the peace proposals of the Soviet Union for the complete elimination of nuclear weapons by the end of the century", Minister Chnoupek declared, adding that Czechoslovakia is actively interested in strengthening the process of detente, initiated in Helsinki in 1975. He expressed the hope that the meeting of the signatories of the Final Act which will be held in Vienna in the autumn will be a broad forum for a fruitful exchange of views on topical questions of European secusecurity and cooperation.

Minister Chnoupek said that the paramount task of Czechoslovak foreign policy is the strengthening of friendship and systematic development and deepening of cooperation with the socialist countries, particularly with the Soviet Union. He spoke also of Czechoslovakia's many-faceted cooperation with developing countries, and its solidarity with nations fighting for freedom and independence.

Minister Chnoupek said that political dialogue is the main instrument of Czechoslovak foreign policy, and listed as examples of its use in relations with advanced capitalist countries development of contacts with neighbouring Austria and the Federal Republic of Germany, as well as with France, Italy, Norway and the West European states.

He declared that the United States bears full responsibility for the fact that the tension in international relations did not lessen even after the Soviet-U.S. summit in Geneva last November, and cited the restrictions placed on th movement of diplomats of several socialist countries in the United States, and U.S. attempts to reduce the representation of the socialist countries in the United Nations, at variance with the U.N. Charter.

Replying to questions of journalists concerning the Middle East situation, Minister Chnoupek appreciated highly the principled policy of Syria which corresponds to the interests of the Arab people and supports the convening of a large international conference, as proposed by the Soviet Union, which would be attended by all the sides concerned.

The dramatic and tragic situation in this region cannot be solved without the Palestinians, the minister stressed.

He denounced the adventurous policy of the United States in the Mediterranean, which adversely affects the situation in Europe and the Middle East. The operations of U.S. warships off the shores of Libya may lead to a conflict. Czechoslovakia is resolutely opposed to such aggressive steps of the Reagan administration, reminiscent of the long out-dated "gunboat diplomacy", the minister said.

U.S. AGGRESSION AGAINST LIBYA CONDEMNED

LD251856 Prague Domestic Service in Czech and Slovak 1800 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Czechoslovak Ministry of Foreign Affairs has issued a statement on the latest provocations and military attacks by the United States against Libya. The statement says the provocative military maneuvers by the U.S. Navy and Air Force off the coast of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah thousands of miles away from the United States has resulted in the violation of Libyan air space and territorial waters in the Gulf of Sidra, and has led to a direct attack on sovereign Libyan territory by the U.S. Armed Forces. The use of military force against Libyan sovereign territory cannot be described as anything other than gross contempt for the basic norms of international law and disregard for the UN Charter.

This aggressive action by the United States is part and parcel of the provocations, pressure, and intimidation against that Arab country, which is a representative of anti-imperialist forces in the Arab world. It is a demonstration of the policy of state terrorism, the document stresses. The U.S. representatives, and especially the Pentagon, are taking on the great responsibility of provoking a military confrontation with the Libyan Armed Forces, and of worsening the atmosphere of war psychosis. The result of their conduct is a serious threat to world peace.

Czechoslovakia condemns the provocation by the U.S. Armed Forces against the sovereign Libyan state. It expressed full support and solidarity with the Libyan people and their leadership. It calls upon the United States immediately to stop any further actions of gross pressure and blackmail on Libya, says the statement by the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

U.S. CONDEMNED FOR 'PENETRATION' OF LIBYA

LD251906 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1834 GMT 25 Mar 86

["Libya Statement by GDR Foreign Ministry Spokesman" -- ADN headline]

[Text] Berlin, 25 Mar (ADN) -- The GDR has noted with great concern the penetration by U.S. aircraft into the territory of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. This act jeopardizes world peace and is aimed against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Libyan state, but it also makes the efforts for a just and permanent solution of the Middle East conflict and thus an improvement of the international situation more difficult.

Penetration of a foreign territory is in open contravention both of the principles of the UN Charter and of other generally recognized norms of international law. It contravenes the will of all those states and their peoples who support international detente and security.

Statesman-like wisdom and prudence is required, especially in this situation. The GDR will continue to work for a world which is free of all threats and in which each people occupies a position equal to that of others.

MEDIA COMMENT ON NICARAGUAN-HONDURAN BORDER

DW251317 [Editorial Report] East Berlin Domestic Service in German at 1100 GMT on 25 March carries a Mathias Reiche commentary announcing as a hoax the U.S. news reports on a Nicaraguan military thrust into Honduras. Referring to the Honduran denial of the reports, the commentator sees this "latest fairy tale hatched at the White House" as part of a "gigantic mudslinging campaign against the Nicaraguan government" staged by the administration in Washington in its quest for Senate approval of $100 million for "the anti-Sandinista counterrevolutionaries."

East Berlin Television Service in German in its newscast at 1830 GMT on 24 March, however, carries a Lutz Herden video report from Nicaragua showing in a brief initial clip some government soldiers moving uphill and two tanks on a road, supplemented with the following narrative: "Intensified border security by the Sandinista People's Army in the area of Ocotal. In this border region in the north of Nicaragua there have been increasing indications for several days of an assault of counterrevolutionary forces which, having been forced to withdraw to Honduras a month ago, seek to gain a foothold on Nicaraguan territory again."

U.S. UNDERGROUND NUCLEAR TEST DENOUNCED

DW251212 East Berlin Domestic Service in German 1800 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Klaus Franke review of the past week's events]

[Excerpts] The 17th CPCZ Congress opened in Prague this morning. Just 4 weeks after the 27th CPSU Congress, representatives of roughly 1.7 million Czechoslovak Communists gathered to review what has been achieved since the last party congress and to map out the tasks for the next 5 years and, on a long-term basis, to the year 2000.

It is safe to assume that communists in our southern neighbor country, too, will map out convincing and realistic answers to the challenges of the present era, and that they will contribute to even more effective cooperation between our states in all fields.

In the past few weeks states and groups of states, politicians, and organizations in various parts of the world have defined their stands on basic problems of our epoch -- the matter of survival -- and provided answers which, depending on their content, are evidence of their responsibility toward the peoples, or their disregard for the hope for peace.

It is generally known that the foreign ministers committee of the Warsaw Pact convened, that the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet addressed an appeal to the U.S. Congress and that, during the same period, the NATO Nuclear Planning Group met, and Washington created political facts eliciting reaction all over the world. Many serious Western publications noted the objective, forward-looking tone and characrer of the communique of the Warsaw foreign ministers meeting and emphasized the efforts of our states to bring about a turn for the better in Europe despite all the impediments that are constantly being put up.

Whether it is in the reduction of conventional weapons, a field in which Western quarters say the Warsaw Pact predominates, or in the matter of controls, our states are once again displaying constructive accomodation. In blatant contrast to such an attitude stands the underground nuclear test carried out by the United States in Nevada. This 800th nuclear test by the United States is generally denounced as a militarist demonstration by advocates of nuclear madness, as a blow against an initial overture to nuclear disarmament, and as an expression of absolute disinterest in any contractual agreement on nuclear testing. The militarists of the United States engineered this detonation of a nuclear charge at the very same time that the renewed extension of the unilateral Soviet moratorium beyond 31 March -- on condition of a positive attitude by the United States -- opened a genuine chance of a first step toward curbing nuclear armament.

It is hard to reconcile this nuclear weapons test with the commitment undertaken in Geneva to mitigate and halt the nuclear arms race on earth through negotiations with the USSR and not to allow the militarization of space. What matters to the Pentagon, however, is the search for nuclear weapons of even greater effect needed for the "star wars" project. U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger said, coupled with last weekend's nuclear test, that SDI is no subject for negotiations with the Soviet Union, as far as the United States is concerned. His concept, hence, is intensification of both nuclear and space armament.

At the end of the week Erich Honecker in Halle said that the SDI accord reached by Kohl and Weinberger simultaneously with the nuclear planning group meeting, which envisages FRG inclusion in "star wars" preparation, is grossly at odds with the realistic positions toward the Soviet complex security program being considered by the international public. The collusion between the Pentagon and Bonn will burden the negotiations between the Soviet Union and the United States, Honecker said, adding that it will also render more complicated relations between the socialist countries and the FRG, and between the GDR and the FRG.

At variance with the official Bonn position is a guideline motion to the forthcoming SPD party congress that was published last week. It says that an SPD government will have no part of SDI or of plans for a West European SDI program.

In our era, when coexistence or the doom of mankind are at stake, it is simply impossible to continue acting in a manner practiced over thousands of years -- relying on weapons and military superiority to solve international problems. As Mikhail Gorbachev put it so succinctly, the psychology and behavior of the stone age must make room for new forms and procedures in relations between different systems, states, and regions. The sooner such a realization prevails in the leading circles of the United States, the freer and the more optimistically will mankind approach the new century.

HONECKER HOLD INTERVIEW WITH MEXICAN DAILY

AU211021 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 19 Mar 86 p 3

["Text" of interview given by Erich Honecker, SED Central Committee general secretary and chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, "last week" to Regino Diaz Redondo, director general of the Mexican paper EXCELSIOR, published by this paper "last weekend" -- place of interview not given]

[Text] Question: To what extent are the countries of Eastern Europe threatened if the Strategic Defense Initiative [SDI] ("star wars"), which has been proposed by the United States and is supported by some West European countries, is continued? What measures would have to be taken by the Warsaw Pact in the event of a continuation of the aforementioned project?

Answer: The new weapons that are envisaged for "star wars" are a threat not only to the Warsaw pact but to all countries and peoples. They are by no means, as certain circles are pretending, designed merely for antimissile defense, but also for attacking any ground target. Continuation of this policy would stimulate the arms race beyond imagination, and would further destabilize the international situation. Insecurity and unpredictability would increase for everyone. Existing disarmament agreements would become ineffective, negotiations would be doomed to failure. Such an absolutely uncontrolled arms race, however, would tremendously increase the danger of a nuclear war. Only recently U.S. scientists warned, in view of the Challenger disaster that, were SDI implemented, mankind's fate would depend on the allegedly infallible technology.

Such a development must not take place. The militarization of space must be prevented. In the interest of the security and the peaceful life of their citizens, the socialist countries cannot permit military superiority of the other side. If they are given no other choice, they will find adequate and effective answers to the new threat posed by SDI.

Question: What are the results of the 27th congress which took place a few days ago and which you attended?

Answer: The party congress opened for mankind the chance to halt the arms race on earth and to prevent its expansion into space, to normalize the international situation, and to develop peaceful cooperation. For this, the proposals by Mikhail Gorbachev of 15 January 1986 are of great importance. They provide the opportunity within the framework of a three-phase program to reach the year 2000 without nuclear weapons, without chemical weapons, and with altogether fewer weapons and armament. As you have surely noted, the program also contains important proposals of the Group of Six, of which your president is a member.

The implementation of this program would not only free the peoples from the fear of a nuclear inferno, but would also make available vast funds for resolving the great economic, social, technological, and ecological problems that are facing mankind. Naturally, this would also have favorable effects on the relations between the NATO and Warsaw pact countries. A continuation of the SDI program, however, would very heavily strain the relations between the socialist countries and the United States.

No one can even imagine that it would be possible to disarm on earth, while building up arms in space. The advocates of the "star wars" program want to carry out a first strike under the protection of SDI. We can also see that scientists all over the world even today voice strong doubts on the effectiveness and safety of this system. We do not want heaven to become the antechamber to hell.

Question: What do you think of the Geneva meeting, and what has been accomplished by it?

Answer: We have welcomed the materialization of the Geneva meeting and its results as positive, even though not all our expectations have come true. Undoubtedly it is encouraging if the leading representatives of the Soviet Union and the United States in their joint statement declare that a nuclear war, in which there can neither be victors nor vanquished, must not be unleashed, and that no side is striving for military superiority. The work at the Geneva negotiations on halting the arms race on earth and on nonarmament in space would be continued at an accelerated pace.

Geneva has provided stimuli for resolving the main question -- to ward off a nuclear inferno. Now it is necessary to follow up words with deeds. By its afore mentioned program and additional activities the Soviet Union has undertaken effective steps to prevent the course mapped out by Geneva from petering out. A primary task is an early agreement on a nuclear test freeze between the USSR and the United States. With its unilaterally proclaimed moratorium on any nuclear explosions, which has been extended until 31 March 1986, the Soviet Union has led the way for the United States. Its proposal for a -- for the time being, bilateral -- moratorium also provides for measures for stricter verification, including on-site inspections.

To preserve and continue what has been achieved in Geneva is the duty of all states and political forces alike, since it concerns our common feature. The GDR is doing everything to help ensure that concrete, peace-promoting steps follow the Geneva meeting. To us, there is nothing more important than the preservation of peace. In this struggle we feel ourselves at one with all states and politicians who think and act likewise, such as your country. Mexico's committed work in the international arena for effective disarmament measures and for safeguarding peace not only meets with our greatest appreciation but always with our strong support as well.

Question: Do you believe that the world finds itself in a crisis today, and that there is a possibility of its being on the brink of a world war, or is there a certain easing of tensions?

Answer: As long as the arms spiral continues to be upwards, the threat of a nuclear war is bound to further increase and the urgently necessary revival of detente is rendered more difficult. Today mankind has arrived at a crossroads.

In its history over millenia it has reached a point where a world of peace, freedom and prosperity for all would be conceivable. The present state of science and technology provides unprecedented possibilities for solving global problems such as hunger, illness, and environmental protection.

At the same time, however, mankind finds itself exposed to the tremendous danger of perishing in the inferno of a nuclear war. In this respect one may well speak of a crisis. It is being conjured up by those who fan the arms race, strive for military superiority on earth and in space, and who want to replace the equal rights of all states and peoples in the international arena with the hegemony of those who are militarily stronger. These forces, as they themselves have made clear, do not even shrink from the risk of a war.

It gives us great confidence that more and more people are standing up against the pointless waste of material and intellectual resources of our planet for military purposes. The worldwide coalition of those who, motivated by reason and realism, oppose the nuclear madness is broadening. More and more responsible politicians share the view that higher arms stockpiles do not mean more security. All this confirms our opinion that the forces of peace will prove stronger than those of war. It is not only necessary but also possible to prevent a world war and to return to detente.

Question: What is the state of North-South relations?

Answer: By this question you have touched upon important political and social problems of a global scale that cannot be restricted to North-South relations. They can be resolved only by the cooperation of all states. In the final analysis, the issue at stake is economic decolonization, the overcoming of economic and social backwardness of most of the developing countries, and their participation, with equal rights, in international economic cooperation.

The GDR regards global negotiations in the United Nations, with the participation of all states and consideration of their legitimate interests, an essential path toward solving the aforementioned problems. Hence an international conference on monetary and financial problems, as is demanded by the nonaligned states, in our opinion, would be a step in the right direction. We also consider it particularly important to adopt more far-reaching measures to strengthen confidence in international economic relations.

Question: Do you regard the relations between the two Germanies at present as optimal? What possibilities do you see for a reunification?

Answer: The relations between the two German states certainly cannot be described as optimal. There are still too many problems standing between us, some of them grave. They primarily result from endeavors in the FRG to disregard international law where the GDR is concerned. Our experiences of the past 15 years indicate that progress in the relations was achieved whenever both sides showed goodwill and realism, and let themselves be guided by respect for sovereignty, equal rights, and noninterference in internal affairs.

Primarily, we view the development of relations between the GDR and the FRG in light of their great responsibility for peace. This responsibility results both from history and from their being situated geographically at the demarcation line between the two most powerful military blocs of our time. Never again must war emanate from German soil.

This is professed by the GDR in deeds, and we expect the same from the FRG. Hence a clear FRG statement against SDI would be of eminent importance.

You have asked about the possibilities for a reunification. As you know, the socialist GDR and the capitalist FRG have developed on German soil as a result of World War II and the postwar events. To put it quite clearly: socialism and capitalism cannot be united any more than fire and water. What is feasible and necessary is relations of peaceful coexistence.

Question: Until when will the Berlin Wall exist? Who wants it, and what advantages or drawbacks does it involve? Are you in favor of this situation remaining as it is now?

Answer: The Wall will remain only as long as the conditions that made it necessary exist. Until 13 August 1961 there was no such border safeguard. From the FRG and West Berlin which, as you know, is situated right in the heart of the GDR, the open border was utilized to pillage the GDR. And what is more, there also were specific military plans for a forcible "rollback" of socialism via the "Front City" of West Berlin. These plans were foiled nearly 25 years ago by building the wall.

Considering this question in an unbiased way, one will agree that the existence of the Wall has made peace in Europe more secure. This development has been and is a benefit not only for our country's citizens but for all peoples.

Question: In view of what is happening in Afghanistan and Central America, do you think that the superpowers are about to divvy up the world?

Answer: No, I do not think so. These examples show, rather, that the most reactionary imperialist circles simply do not want to reconcile themselves to the course of history. This was the case when the October Revolution was victorious in Russia in 1917, and this is the case today concerning the progressive developments in the world, be it in Cuba, Afghanistan, Nicaragua, or Angola.

It is known that the legitimate government of Afghanistan asked the Soviet Union for military aid. For years an undeclared, brutal war has been waged from the outside against peaceful development in this country. Last year alone, one was able to read in Western newspapers, the United States supported the counterrevolutionary gangs with $280 million.

Or let us look at Nicaragua. The aggressive policy of pressure and blackmail against this country has enormously exacerbated the situation in this region. The U.S. Administration does not even make a secret of the fact that the objective of its policy in Central America is, first and foremost, the elimination of the Sandinist people's revolution. If the plans of the administration in Washington are to be realized, then this year alone $100 million will be supplied for military and socalled humanitarian aid to the "contras."

We are not only concerned about the situation in Central America, because every single one of these hotbeds of tension generates serious dangers to world peace. We consistently work for a peaceful solution to the existing conflicts under strict observance of the norms of international law. An important step in this direction -- actually the precondition -- would mainly be the cessation of the undeclared war against the countries that are linked in friendship to us, that is Afghanistan, Mozambique, Angola, and Nicaragua.

Question: Do you think that the Nicaraguan Government is a Marxist one or that U.S. pressure does push it toward Cuba and the Soviet Union?

Answer: In Nicaragua you can see or feel neither Cuba's nor the Soviet Union's influence. Its government has emerged out of the struggle against the Somoza regime, which had its roots in social exploitation and national oppression of the people. Concerning the development of the national struggle for liberation, there is no status quo. I cannot and will not conceal the fact that we feel great sympathy for Nicaragua and for Cuba, and also for the people who are struggling for democracy in El Salvador and in other Latin American countries.

We very much support Mexico's foreign policy because the country also supports us in defending world peace. Solidarity exists. Of course, I cannot speak for the other socialist countries but only for the GDR. It supports the development of the nationally liberated peoples and countries with large amounts of material resources. Of course, the other socialist states are acting in the same direction.

Question: Have you any idea who the murderers of Olof Palme are and what the background of this crime could be?

Answer: This criminal attack on Olof Palme was an attack against peace. The world lost an outstanding fighter for peace and mankind's progress. Our people, too, have been deeply shocked by this attack. Obviously, those circles for whom Olof Palme was an obstacle to reaching their goals stand behind the attack.

Question: It is obvious that many socialdemocratic, socialist governments in Europe have some problems. Does this mean that the conservatives are on the rise?

Answer: I do not think that Europe has experienced a strengthening of the conservative component. On the contrary, more than 74 percent of the people are against the policy of arms buildup of the most extreme circles. If it was the intention to cause a change in Sweden's attitude by assassinating Olof Palme, then the reaction of the new prime minister, Carlsson, shows that Sweden intends to continue its foreign policy.

Of course, I do not underestimate the conservative component, but at the same time we also take into account that among the conservatives there are also leading persons who are not willing to turn mankind over to a nuclear inferno.

Q Are there basic differences between the socialists and communists in Europe?

A It is known that there are profound ideological differences in opinion between the communist and the socialists in Europe, but the common interest to take care that mankind does not perish in a nuclear inferno prevails. In this, I proceed from the premise that words and deeds coincide. This cannot be said about all of those who speak about peace and at the same time push forward with an arms buildup. It is a fact that at present in Europe there exists important cooperation between the communists and socialdemocratic parties to preserve peace. We consider this as the main task and for this we are doing everything.

Question: A few days ago Dr Kissinger said more or less that President Reagan's new policy on the Philippines and Haiti is wrong because the United States will end up alone if it discards its dictator-friends.

Answer: In my opinion this seems to be correct.

Question: Is this not a new U.S. strategy in order to exclude communist-type social explosions?

Answer: This country has developed a new strategy of globalism. It wants to determine how the world must develop, but it will not be able to do this. Nobody can stop the development of the peoples toward their social and national liberation. We are fully in favor of the peoples' self-determination, in favor of their determining their own fate. Therefore, we reject any form of external interference into these countries' domestic affairs.

Question: What would your proposal be, so that the indebted countries can pay their debts or fulfill their obligations, and what do you think of the positions of Mexico, Peru, and Cuba on this problem?

Answer: Solving the "debt crisis," as the skyrocketing foreign debts of the countries in Latin America, Asia, and Africa are called, is a very complicated problem. The positions of those countries you named reflect the wide range of possibilities within which a feasible solution is looked for.

If one wants to effectively fight evil, one has to seek out its roots. The almost unimaginable debt burden is without doubt, a consequence of colonial exploitation in the past. Another decisive reason, however, is the inferior, unequal position of the developing countries in today's capitalist world economy, the neocolonialist exploitation by multinational monopolies. These problems are excacerbated by the imperialist course of arms buildup, which annually devours immense amounts of money and is also a burden to the devloping countries. Thus, halting the arms race, step-by-step disarmament, and reducing military expenditure are important preconditions for a comprehensive and lasting solution to the debt problem.

Together with the other socialist states, the GDR is working for an immediate solution to the problem of foreign debts. For this purpose, concrete, business-like negotiations within the United Nations should be started as soon as possible. An alleviation of the debt burden by the capitalist industrial countries would certainly by very helpful as a first step for many developing countries. But the question can only be solved with a fundamental restructuring of international economic, financial, and currency relations, which includes equal cooperation between all states.

The GDR will continue to develop -- in the same way as the other socialist states -- the economic, financial, and scientific-technological cooperation with the developing countries. As to date, this will take place on the basis of equality and mutual benefit. Our joint proposals to conclude an agreement on the reduction of armament expenditures are also still valid. The financial means that would then be available should be used for economic and social development and thus also for support to the developing countries.

Question: Do you propose direct dialogue between creditor and debtor countries?

Answer: The problem could be discussed and solved within the framework of the United Nations or an international conference independent of this forum. In any case, it would be important that the responsible statesmen come together and make decisions. Here it is obvious that the debt problem is directly linked to the questions of disarmament.

Question: Would you be in favor of a moratorium, of a reduction of interest payments for the debts or of their cancellation?

Answer: The best thing would be, of course, to cancel the debts because the creditor states and the banks have already received more money via payments of interest than they invested in loans. But politics deals with possibilities and therefore I think that these countries would not accept such a stipulation.

Question: The peoples are already tired and will not much longer be able to make the sacrifices to pay these debts. Such a situation weakens the democratic governments of Latin America, such as that of Mexico, and can create riots and social explosions. Would it not be an urgent task that all countries, including those of the East, convene an international conference before the creditor banks hang themselves with their own noose?

Answer: I would like to mention that we are willing to cooperate within the framework of CEMA in order to solve this problem which is of interest to everybody. Cancel the debts but convince the countries that gave the loans. [sentence as published] We cannot agree with the policy of the International Monetary Fund and we are willing to cooperate in any form, within and outside of the United Nations. It is important that the world realizes that the problem is very serious and that adequate conditions must be created to solve it. Concerning Latin America in particular, I know a bit of Mexico. I love the Mexican people. I also had many talks with representatives of Nicaragua and other countries in this region, and I would like to say that the solution of the debt problem is very closely linked with disarmament. Billions of dollars are used for the arms buildup. Therefore, independent of the will to do something, appropriate conditions to achieve something are lacking.

Here we are dealing with a diabolical system. The most important question is to halt and reduce armament on earth and prevent its extension to space.

Question: Let as assume there were a unilateral declaration of a moratorium by the Latin American countries, and the industrial countries and the banks of these nations imposed sanctions against the debtors; how would the Eastern countries help to alleviate the economic burden and, in addition, contribute to countering any aggression?

Answer: All measures that you take meet with our sympathy, but sympathy alone is not enough. The debts are so high that one cannot forget the problem for even a single moment but must make decisions to visibly alleviate the difficult economic situation of the indebted nations that is caused by imperialist politics.

Concerning ourselves, the problem is the following: As long as we have to use so many resources to keep up the military-strategic balance we, including the USSR, are not able to give enough help to the Third World countries although we are already now granting necessary support commensurate with our possibilities.

Therefore, I would like to point out once more that these questions are decisively dependent on solving the main question, that is the question of safeguarding peace and disarmament. It is important to exert pressure so that in the negotiations between the United States and the USSR agreements are reached, at least concerning some of the topics that are being discussed. The success of these negotiations also determines the possibility to effectively fight indebtedness.

Question: What would the basic principles be for creating a New International Economic Order?

Answer: Basic principles have existed since the seventies. I mean the declaration and the action program for the creation of a New International Economic Order and the charter of economic rights and duties of states as they were approved by the United Nations at that time. Particularly in preparing the charter, your country played an outstanding role. Meanwhile, the program that was developed by the nonaligned countries and contains such basic objectives as the establishment of just relations, free of any discrimination and exploitation, has been internationally recognized.

The more than 10 years of struggle to realize these and other objectives show that between approving progressive documents and fully realizing them considerable obstacles and opposition have to be overcome. In this struggle we have always stood at the side of the developing countries and have actively supported their legitimate efforts. Together with our partners in the CEMA, we proposed an action program for improving the international economic relations with the declaration "Preservation of Peace and International Economic Cooperation" at the CEMA summit in June 1984 in Moscow.

It is our well-understood, common interest that an atmosphere of trust and security, of predictability and reliability begins to permeat international economic and scientific-technological relations. It must be free of any discrimination in trade, of economic blackmail and dictatorial behavior in financial matters. This presupposes that all states participating in international cooperation are constructively working for realizing the agreed principles.

Question: How do you consider the current state and prospects of the relations between Mexico and the GDR?

Answer: I like to remember my visit to your country in September 1981. Since then the historically developed relations of friendship between our two peoples have been successfully continued and deepened. The political dialogue between our two states is a concrete expression of the joint efforts of the GDR and Mexico to do everything to prevent a nuclear inferno, to preserve peace, and to solve the current global economic problems.

Today there is practically no field in which there is not fruitful cooperation on a contractual basis. Of course, we want to continue this good and positive development. We see possibilities for this in numerous fields in which we can use the achieved results as a stable basis and starting point, for instance in developing cooperation in the economic and scientific-technological areas, the contract system, or cultural and scientific relations -- fields which are interesting for both sides.

GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ISSUED ON LIBYAN EVENTS

LD261500 Budapest MTI in English 1420 GMT 26 Mar 86

[Text] Budapest, March 26 (MTI) -- The Hungarian news agency has been authorized to publish the following statement.

The Government of the Hungarian People's Republic voices deep concern over the tensions that have built up along the Libyan coasts.

The U.S. miltary operations are obviously aimed at intimidating the independent non-aligned Libya, a member of the United Nations Organization, the armed conflict not only threatens the peace and independence of the Libyan people, but may also have extremely dangerous consequences for the entire Mediterranean region and, in a broader sense, for the cause of international peace and security.

The Hungarian People's Republic declares solidarity for Libya, and expresses the hope that the United States, displaying sober self-restraint, will take measures for an immediate stop to military operations, for easing tensions in the region, and for a peaceful settlement of disputes.

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH SFRY -- Belgrade, March 24 (MTI) -- Hungarian Minister of Culture and Education Bela Kopeczi and Zivorad Kovacevic, member of the Yugoslav Federal Executive Council, signed the new five-year inter-governmental scientific, educational and cultural cooperation agreement between the Hungarian People's Republic and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, in Belgrade Monday. The agreement states that the two governments are to encourage and promote further development of scientific, educational, cultural, information, physical education and sports cooperation The sides are to encourate cooperation between the competent bodies and organizations of the two countries in educational and cultural fields concerning the Croat, Serbian and Slovene minorities living in Hungary, and the Hungarian minority living in Yugoslavia. [Excerpt] [Budapest MTI in English 2200 GMT 24 Mar 86 LD]

REACTION TO U.S. MOVES AGAINST LIBYA NOTED

Urban Voices Concern

LD251512 Warsaw PAP in English 1415 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw, March 25: Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban here today voiced his deep concern over the recent moves by the U.S. Against Libya. He described them as dangerous to world peace.

Addressing the weekly conference for foreign newsmen, Minister Urban said that the Polish authorities unite with Libya -- a friendly country. He emphasized that the measures taken by the U.S. set up a dangerous situation in the sensitive region. The spokesman also expressed his concern caused by the renewal of nuclear test blasts by the U.S. and violation by the U. S. Navy of the Soviet Union's territorial waters.

Minister Urban refered to the agreement on the Polish-Chinese direct air connection recently signed by the two countries. The agreement, he said, will be implemented by the end of this year. Charter flights will precede the regular communication flights.

Minister Urban told the conference that the Polish side opened talks with representatives of the U.S. Adminstration in connection with a decision of the Department of State which limited the freedom of Polish diplomatic missions staffers in the U.S. The Polish side demanded that the U.S. Government withdrew the discriminatory measures against Polish diplomats. The Polish side informed the U.S. Adminstration about steps it will undertake had not the U.S. discriminatory moves been abandoned.

Act of 'Piracy'

LD260026 Warsaw Television Service in Polish 1830 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The United States has been striving for a confrontation with Libya wittingly, consistently, and for years. Eighteen times over the past 5 years it concentrated naval squadrons off the Libyan coast, while this year's operation was opened with a political campaign and is being culminated in an authentic military offensive. The administration has a strong position with regard to Congress and it seems that in a climate of American demonstration of strength, the White House will obtain from the legislature everything it will demand. A modest observation in THE NEW YORK TIMES editorial section that the Americans have the right to expect a greater sense of responsibility from their government, remains a voice in the wilderness.

This is another act of American air piracy and yet another attack on a sovereign country; it is another violation of international law. State terrorism, condemned in theory by the U.S. Adminstration, is regularly used by it in practice. The Americans have been conducting exercises in waters off the Libyan coast for some time now, attempting to intimidate the government of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Blackmail brings no result and in turn further exasperates the capitalist power which cannot come to terms with the anti-imperialist and anticolonial policy of the Libyan authorities. Furthermore, the Libyan Jamahiriyah maintains far too close relations, in Washington's view, with the socialist countries and proposes too many independent solutions in the international arena, which finds no approval in the eyes of the United States. Nobody knows yet what the American provocations will lead to, but statements by Washington hawks about the possibility of using force on a greater scale against Libya already cause concern. Optimism may be gained from the fact of full solidarity of the entire progressive world and an exceptional mobilization of the Arab world in view of the threat to Libyan sovereignty.

REPORTAGE ON LCY LEADER ZARKOVIC'S VISIT

Meets With Jaruzelski

LD251555 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2131 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- Vidoje Zarkovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, had talks in Warsaw today with Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and president of the Council of State.

Taking part in the talks, which were held immediately on the arrival of the LCY delegation, as well as during the afternoon, were Dobrivoje Vidic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, Stanislav Stojanovic, executive secretary of the Presidium, Aleksandar Sekulovic, head of the LCY international cooperation section and Milivoje Maksic, the SFRY's ambassador to Poland.

Taking part in the talks on the PZPR side were Jozef Czyrek, member of the Politburo and secretary of the Central Committee, Boguslaw Kolodziejczak, director of the Chancery of the Central Committee Secretariat, Ernest Kucza, head of the international department and other figures. [Warsaw PAP English at 2041 GMT on 25 March adds the following names to the Polish delegation: First secretary of the PUWP Voivodship Committee in Gorzow Wielkopolski Wiktor Kinecki and deputy head of the Central Committee Foreign Department Janusz Lewandowski]

During a cordial and friendly conversation Zarkovic and Jaruzelski gave a high assessment of overall Yugoslav-Polish relations, as well as of relations and cooperation between the LCY and PZPR. It was said that these relations are traditionally friendly and good and that the conditions and readiness on both sides exist for them to continue to develop on principles of independence, automony and equality and the right of every party to decide autonomously on its own internal development and international policy. The need was emphasized for an intensification of practical cooperation in all spheres of work and for the successful implementation of the cooperation program between the LCY and PZPR; for a strengthening of comprehensive and significant economic and cultural cooperation between the two countries and an increase in the links between our socio-political organizations, and institutions of the SRS and socialist autonomous provinces with suitable institutions in the Polish PR. It was agreed that for their part the LCY and PZPR would contribute to the stability and development of such cooperation.

Zarkovic and Jaruzelski exchanged information on the activities of the LCY and PZPR in the internal sphere. There was discussion in particular of preparations for the forthcoming congresses. Zarkovic emphasized that the main decisions of the 13th LCY Congress would be directed at the more forceful resolution of tasks of economic development and overcoming economic difficulties on the basis of the long-term economic stabilization program and at the continued development of socialist self-management, the democratization of social relations and the strengthening of the role of the LCY as the leading ideo-political force in society in the developed system of socialist self-management. Jaruzelski emphasized that the 10th congress of the PZPR should access the current degree of socialist development of the country and set long-term aims for the development of Polish society on the threshold of the 21st centruy. He emphasized the significance of the PZPR program which the congress should adopt as an ideological platform for the continued successful realization of the course of socialist renewal, reform and agreement-making.

Discussing the topical international issues, Zarkovic and Jaruzelski agreed that international relations were burdened by numerous dangerous developments which are threatening world security and peace despite the fact that the Reagan-Gorbachev meeting in Geneva had aroused justified hopes as regards the consolidation of the process of negotiations and detente. The two sides judged that Gorbachev's initiatives and proposals represented a realistic basis for steps in that direction. However, the exacerbation of the crisis situation in some parts of the world, negative trends in the world economy which are already making the difficult situation in developing countries even more complicated, the increased ideologization of international relations could all lead to the further worsening of the international situation. Both sides stressed that 1986, as the year of peace, should be marked by concrete agreements on the process of disarmament and reduction in nuclear weapons. Zarkovic placed emphasis on the active and continued role of the Nonaligned Movement in the efforts to accomplish these goals, which, he said, would be the main topic of the next summit of nonaligned in Harare.

The president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium and the first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee exchanged views about the situation and trends in the workers' and other progressive movements in the world. It was said that the present complex situation and major changes brought about by the revolution in science and technology contain many crucial issues. The progressive development of social relations is not automatically guaranteed and it depends on the efforts and capacity of subjective forces to provide adequate response and to pay attention in their programs to the aspirations of working people and nations toward peace and social progress. Stress was also placed on the importance of comprehensive cooperation, permanent dialogue and exchange of experience between all the forces of the left in the world in order to consolidate joint struggle for peace, disarmament, development, new and more just social relations and general progress in the world. The importance of major reforms launched in socialist countries for both the development of these countries and for the overall process of the struggle for progress and socialism in the world was emphasized.

Jaruzelski Dinner Toast

LD251508 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 2039 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and president of the Council of State has given a formal dinner in honor of Vidoje Zarkovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, who is leading an LCY delegation visiting Poland. During the dinner, at which prominent party and state leaders were present, Zarkovic and Jaruzelski exchanged toasts.

In his toast the first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee recalled the Polish-Yugoslav talks in Belgrade last year and expressed his conviction that the current visit of the LCY delegation will make a significant contribution to the further rapprochement between the two parties and peoples. Having made the assessment that the peoples of Poland and Yugoslavia made a significant contribution to the victory of the anti-Hitler coalition, Jaruzelski turned towards Zarkovic: "You personally took part in the liberation struggle in the ranks of the partisan army under the command of the legendary leader Marshal Josip Broz Tito. The Poles too were in your detachments. We are well acquainted with the military merits of the Yugoslav fighters for freedom and this gives rise to profound respect in our country."

The first secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish party went on to say that the LCY and the PZPR had demonstrated, both during the war and at the time of socialist construction, that they knew how to carry out their historic mission and that they are the leading force of their peoples.

Jaruzelski also pointed out the successful political and economic cooperation between Poland and Yugoslavia and the contacts between the LCY and the PZPR.

Speaking of the internal developments in Poland, Jaruzelski stressed that despite temporary difficult and sometimes even dramatic moments the socialist achievements in Poland are undeniable. "Our party, working-class and all patriotic forces will protect and increase these achievements. We will not deviate from the path of socialist renewal, consolidation of socialism, democracy and legality. Consistently and on the basis of our constitutional principles and the principles of our social system we shall build and expand national understanding. We are convinced that the forthcoming 10th PZPR Congress will confirm and further develop this line."

Having stressed that for all the parties and peoples and for progressive movements and social organization the most important thing is to prevent the outbreak of a nuclear war, to seek the paths of detente and to create the conditions for the solution of problems through international cooperation on an equal footing, Jaruzelski said: "This is the reason why, with special tribute, we welcomed and we resolutely support the Soviet proposals for a radical halt to the arms race and for nuclear disarmament up to the end of this century.

"Nevertheless, the will of all the great powers is required for an essential change in the present dangerous situation in the world. This will and resolve was displayed once again by the Soviet Union. Now is the time for the United States and its allies to follow suit. This is the only way to eliminate the lethal danger threatening the world. This chance must not be lost. All big and small countries, members of alliances and nonaligned countries, have the right and the duty to have their say on this issue because it concerns the right to life by the people, states and peoples."

In Jaruzelski's assessment, in the present situation a special role could be played by the nonaligned countries among which Yugoslavia has a great influence and enjoys a great reputation. "On several occasions their voice was heard loudly against the policy of armament and confrontation. The movement of nonaligned countries continues to be today a significant factor in opposing the intention of turning our whole planet into powder keg with a lit fuse."

At the end of his toast Jaruzelski said that the talks today between the delegations of the two parties had once again confirmed that the PZPR and the LCY, "guided by the revolutionary theory of scientific socialism and simultaneously taking into consideration the concrete conditions in which they operate, lead their peoples in the historic change of social and economic relations. We are bound together by profound concern for the preservation of peace, for the development of the forces of progress which emancipate the working people from exploitation and oppression."

Zarkovic Dinner Toast

LD251509 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1805 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Warsaw, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- Replying to Wojciech Jaruzelski's toast, Vidoje Zarkovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, said that the two countries are continuing the talks held last year and he expressed the conviction that the current contacts would be an act strengthening friendship and fruitful cooperation between the two countries, deepening mutual realizations about the activities of the parties in the internal sphere and the essential exchange of views on a series of topical questions with which the world today and socialism as a world process are confronted on the threshold of the 21st century.

"I wish here also to repeat that Yugoslav Communists and all working people in Yugoslavia follow with great attention and understanding the efforts of the PZPR and all socialist and democratic forces in Poland to find and apply autonomously -- on the basis of Polish conditions, national characteristics and historical inheritance -- their own paths for the democratic strengthening of socialism and thereby the stability and prosperity of your country. We know of your great personal contribution, Comrade Jaruzelski, to efforts for the achievement of socialist renewal, for progress in Poland and for its worthy place in international relations and in resolving the major problems with which the world today is confronted."

Vidoje Zarkovic then emphasized that the LCY proceeds from the conviction that every party whose ideal is socialism is autonomous and independent in its orientations and that it is responsible for its policy and the historical role undertaken exclusively for its own working class and people in current and future generations. Every party and country offer, in their original and authentic solutions, a valuable contribution to the general experiences and richness of socialist processes in the world. Zarkovic expressed the conviction that the forthcoming congress of the Polish party would be a significant step in this direction and that it would open up a new stage in the strengthening of socialism in Poland.

"As you know," Zarkovic went on, "the LCY is also about to hold a congress. Not just this event but also our entire development and the problems confronting us lay a great responsibility upon us. We are exerting great efforts to overcome economic difficulties and to ensure that the self-managing political system functions effectively. Our strategic orientations, which we built up with Tito at our head, represent the historic legacy and the permanent interest and orientation of the Communists, nations and nationalities of Yugoslavia. For us there is no alternative and nor can there be to the independence, nonalignment, equality and brotherhood and unity of all our nations and nationalities and the development of socialist democracy in the overall system of our socialist self-management and these are the essential orientations of the LCY. In this spirit we continue to speak of the continuity of application of principles and policies from Tito's time. In your recent conversation with Yugoslav journalists about your recollections of Tito, you, Comrade Jaruzelski, said in an inspired manner: 'The greatest thing that a leader can leave behind is that he is not just history but is constantly both the present and the future.' It is precisely in this way that we understand Tito's and our own cause."

Speaking about international actvity, Vidoje Zarkovic said that the LCY proceeds from the conviction that the peace, freedom, independence, security and tranquillity of every people and every country is the precondition for progressive social transformations. "Our attachment to peace is all the greater in that we recall the horrors of the Second World War and the great human and material losses our country suffered in it. At this moment our thoughts are on the heroic sufferings of the Polish people who were the victims of the Second World War and fascist aggression and who made an unforgettable contribution to the struggle for peace. We are therefore urging that the current year, which the UN has declared the year of peace, be marked by concrete agreements on the opening of the process of disarmament and reduction in nuclear weapons. This is a moral obligation and not a matter for political maneuvering and competition. It is the debt owed to the generations which bore the sufferings during the two destructive world wars and to the future generations as well."

Zarkovic went on to emphasize that the LCY and the country as a whole would not spare effort in the struggle for peace, disarmament, easing of international tension and development. "We believe that the fundamental problems of the present-day world stem from the existing unequal international relations, particularly in the economic sphere. We are therefore advocating, within the movement of nonaligned countries, the kind of international relations which will help to eliminate on a long-term basis the sources of divisions, conflicts and confrontations."

Concluding his toast Zarkovic expressed satisfaction at the successful cooperation between the two countries and between the PZPR and the LCY. He said, there are good reasons and possibilities for this cooperation to be constantly deepened and enriched which is in our mutual interest, thus contributing to the efforts to achieve wider understanding, peace, progress and the development of socialism as the world process. "I am convinced that our visit and talks will enhance even more our mutual understanding, respect and friendship and that it will make our cooperation even more fruitful," Zarkovic said.

JARUZELSKI ADDRESSES VOIVODSHIP CHAIRMEN

LD200924 Warsaw PAP in English 2152 GMT 19 Mar 86

["Speech by Jaruzelski (abridged)" --PAP headline]

[Text] Warsaw, March 19 -- The topic of our meeting, said Wojciech Jaruzelski at today's conference of chairmen of voivodship people's councils and heads of voivodship committees for voluntary commitments here, is linked with the widely perceived idea of a thrifty economy, especially with such activities of people's councils which promote vigorous postures, boost readiness of individuals to work for the good of their milieux and, in a wider scale, to act in favour of the nation and the state. So this is patriotism seen against the background of everyday, honest work and stepped up social and professional activeness which perfects and enriches the reality which surrounds us.

We have been noting with satisfaction vigorous, pre-congress activity of different milieux, especially crews of many work establishments. This is mirrored in voluntary work and extra production which will bring additional goods, improvements and cleanup work. Especially today, any symptom of additional activeness, any new social or production commitment, has not only economic, material dimension, but is also of extremely psycho-social importance.

The past years left different kinds of traumas and prejudices and consciousness of many people. The still difficult economic problems sometimes become an excuse to justify cases of impotence and passiveness. It is the forces hostile to People's Poland which are especially interested in creating such postures. Apathy, passiveness -- this is the state which they would like to sow and maintain in this country. In every morally sound man there are resources of the desire to perform useful deeds, there are needs to distinguish himself. This is a potentially great capital of nation-wide energy. So the most important thing is to stimulate these natural human strivings and channel them properly.

Therefore we highly value any social initiatives. We do so not only because their value can be expressed in billions of zlotys, that they help meet different social demands. Their value boils down above all to their influence on human postures, on the sense of collective responsibility, on a deep concern for a better tomorrow of socialist Poland. Social commitments evidence the possibility to overcome the difficulties which are seemingly impossible to overcome. They stimulate the passion for voluntary work (among society), add to the interest in regional and nationwide problems, enrich educational and cultural aspirations, raise aesthetic requirements onto a higher level. They prove that own resources can help accomplish very much for the common good.

At the same time social commitments have their ideological-political aspect. The local administration, which encourages social commitments and lends tangible assistance to those who initiate them, is not viewed by citizens as being only "an administrative office".

It becomes their own administration, stimulating and inspiring conscious transformations of living conditions. The principle of rational operation should define the scope and character of the social commitments. The people's councils should make better use of the means at their disposal for promoting social initiatives.

The belated commissioning of different investment projects implemented with the participation of voluntary labour continues to be a major shortcoming. Prolonged investment cycles add to the costs, lower the zeal for work and are a cause of cases of devastation on building sites. Discouraging are likewise recurring incidents of showcase actions, meant to bring propaganda effects or to be included in bureaucratic reports. Naturally enough, citizens complain in such situations. And they not only grumble about the (local) self-government, local administration and, finally, about a commune, municipal or voivodship people's council, but they grumble "in general" -- about the government, the state. All this brings obvious political and moral losses.

However, it is not this current which dominates. A front of well-organized, effective activeness of society is increasingly developing. We note more and more cases of creative thinking and activities concerning different spheres of social, economic and cultural life. And how aptly this particular realm of human activity was described by (poet) Julian Przybos as "suprawork", who compared it with creative activity.

Social commitments are a traditional area of activeness. According to initial estimates, over the years of the latest three-year plan their total value exceeded the Z90 thousand million mark, with a steadily rising tendency observed in this respect. It appears from the information sent by the chairmen that social commitments promote integrational processes within milieux. They especially help concert efforts of people's councils, social organizations, work establishments and citizens. Therefore, the new concepts of self-governmental character of people's councils and their institutional link with the residents' self-government are proving to be correct. The correctness of new legal solutions is being confirmed.

Social dedication meant to promote the targets going beyond the scope of direct interest of a milieu is of long-standing tradition. The Warsaw reconstruction fund, operating in the first post-war years, was the harbinger of these actions. Today, these traditions are continued by the national health protection fund at the account of which a total of more than Z53 thousand million have been collected until now which made it possible to build and renovate nearly 1,500 objects. The construction of the Polish Mother's Health Centre Memorial Hospital in Lodz and the nation-wide action for school provide many evidences of society's commitment. The scope of social activeness and initiatives is very wide. They all have a common denominator - upbringing through useful effort, consolidation of ties with a milieu, social advantage.

Against this background I want to draw the attention of you, the chairman, to the (necessity) to stimulate actions aimed at: First - combating any kinds of criminal and moral pathology -- alcoholism, drug addiction, depravation of teenagers, parasitism. As it is known, there are suitable laws in force, however, their provisions are not being successfully implemented. Second - the shaping of suitable inter-human relations, creation of a proper atmosphere, this including greater demands vis-a-vis public utility institutions which should serve man and facilitate his life. Third - care for the sanitary state of our country, for cleanness and proper hygienic conditions at every work stand, at every place of residence and rest. As it is known, in this respect there is much to be done. Let us make the nearest period, especially the month of April, the time of a great drive for cleanness, for neatness of our country.

The draft program of the party, to be adopted by the 10th Congress of the PUWP, spells out nation-wide targets and tasks. In this program, addressed to all party members, as well as to members of the allied parties and to millions of citizens without party affiliation, we state unequivocally: "We will continue, develop and speed up the process of socialist transformations." We will consolidate and broaden the content and forms of socialist democracy and self-government as well as (the content and forms of) civic and state discipline. The working people are the sovereign in our state. The people's power which you represent, must serve them, must express their interests, meet their needs and back up their initiatives.

We all are responsible for a Poland of tomorrow. The concordant, creative work of the nation including civic initiatives, inspired and backed by the people's councils, undertaken and carried out by the citizens for common good, is to decide about what content will be inscribed in the book of us entering the 21st century. And it will be no longer a book about improvement and stabilization but about a comprehensive development of the people's commonwealth.

FURTHER DETAILS OF 11 MARCH URBAN CONFERENCE

AU201351 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 17 Mar 86 p 4

["Transcript" of press conference given to Polish and foreign journalists by Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban in Warsaw on 11 March]

[Excerpts] Donald Forbes, REUTER: What is the purpose of General Siwicki's visit to India? Will he inform the Indian authorities about the results of investigations into the Polish share in the Indian espionage scandal last year? What were the results of these investigations?

Urban: The purpose of the visit is to promote Polish-Indian relations, which are present in various areas, including the military area. We do this through talks and exchanges of experience. The issue you have asked about has been settled by the governments concerned. That is why I do not think that Minister Siwicki will have any talks on it.

Guy Dinmore, REUTER: When will the Israeli visa office be opened in Warsaw? Why has this opening been delayed?

Urban: I repeat once more that talks about technical details have delayed the opening. I still do not know when the visa office will be open, but it will be opened. There are no substantial obstacles, just technical matters.

Christopher Bobinski, FINANCIAL TIMES: Activities to coordinate research programs in the social sciences for the coming 5-year period have been recently halted. All these programs will be examined by a special commission which will also include representatives of the Social Sciences Academy. Does this mean that science policy has been tightened?

Urban: We do not implement science policy by tightening or relaxing its critera. Our policy has always been that research programs have to be approved and that they have to be examined and eventually modified before approval. The appropriate authorities responsible for this will certainly take into consideration those views expressed at the congress of Polish science that aired dissatisfaction with the prolonged approval procedure. However, this procedure must not be speeded up to such an extent as to result in rash decisions or the decisions that would be in conflict with our policy of concentrating forces and resources on the most important issues.

Such concentration is our government's policy for science.

Giulio Gelibter, ANSA: Do the Polish authorities intend to apply clemency vis-a vis Frasyniuk, Lis, and Michnik? Is it true that the authorities have asked the Church to vouch for these three persons is such clemency is applied?

Urban: I know nothing about such moves. All I know is that it is our policy to display humanitarianism in such cases, if at all possible.

Peter Johnsson, HANDESLTIDNINGEN: Is it possible that the rules of Polish-Soviet tourist exchanges might be changed very soon? Was this issue discussed by General Jaruzelski and Premier Messner during their visit to Moscow to attend the Soviet congress?

Urban: This issue was not discussed during the visit, but tourism may develop because it had been discussed on previous occasions. This concerns longer tourist visits, vacations, and excursions as well as short visits across the border, which are very important for inhabitants in border areas. On the strength of the talks between the PZPR first secretary and the CPSU general secretary, as well as those held by Premier Messner during his previous visit, it is possible to assume that Polish-Soviet tourist exchanges will be increased in line with the material potential of our two countries. This assumption is backed by the fact that all these talks have been of essential significance in promoting cooperation in all areas.

Michael Kaufman, NYT: Could you tell us whether representatives of the Episcopate paid a visit yesterday to two political prisoners on hunger strike at the Rakowiecka street penitentiary? Does this mean that a kind of government-church dialogue on this issue is continuing? Does this also mean that the government is looking forward to some social initiative that would induce these two prisoners to abandon their hunger strike?

Urban: I know that these prisoners have received a letter from the Episcopate asking them to abandon this health-endangering practice. You have asked whether this is a feature of the state-Church dialogue. I would call it a form of the Church's humanitarian mission. The state merely approved of this ecclesiastical initiative and made it possible for the people concerned to acknowledge it.

Alma Kadragic, ABC NEWS: You maintain that the amount of the funds contributed to the Agricultural Foundation has been disappointing. It is said that U.S. Congress appropriated $10 million for the first year of the foundation and that the initial fund of the foundation is to amount to $21 million. Do you think that this sum is too small for initiating the work of the foundation?

Urban: Personally, I regard $10 million as an enormous sum of money. Perhaps it is also for you, personally. But for our agriculture it is not a considerable amount if you take into account that our agriculture has suffered losses amounting to $3 billion as a result of American sanctions, which have brought damage in various areas, including food for the nation. The $10 million in question are peanuts compared with the originally promised $2 billion. You have asked me whether $10 million if a lot or little. It depends on how you view it.

Kay Withers, BALTIMORE SUN: Could you tell us precisely which paragraphs of the Penal Code make it possible to detain people for nonpolitical offenses? Will Czeslaw Bielecki be allowed to emigrate?

Urban: I am unable to enumerate all the Penal Code paragraphs that make it possible to convict people for noncriminal offenses. You see, paragraphs are one thing and motives are another thing. A person may be convicted for insulting the national banner, another for attending an illegal gathering, and yet another for assaulting a militiaman. Political motives are the common denominator of these offenses, but the paragraphs dealing with them vary from case to case. My advice is that you study our Penal Code.

The usual noncriminal offenses include circulation of false information that amounts to slandering our state authorities, production of illegal publications and printed matter, and membership of illegal orgaizations. But there are also more serious crimes, of course.

I know nothing about Czeslaw Bielecki's application for permission to emigrate from Poland. If he makes such an application it will be considered in line with the existing procedures.

Christopher Bobinski: Bialystok Voivodship authorities continue to question teachers about various matters, including their attitude toward religion. Is this questioning restricted to Bialystok Voivodship or is it a countrywide measure sponsored by the educational authorities?

Urban: Reviews of cadres are a normal practice and are carried out in all spheres from time to time. I have read your article about the Bialystock questionnaire, but before I can answer you I must know exactly how and where this questioning was carried out and by whom. Was this questioning in connection with a cadre review? What was at issue?

Bobinski: Since the Curia of the Bialystok Diocese has protested this questioning, perhaps it would be better to refer this issue to it?

Urban: This is not a market place where I could be told what to do.

Rober Strybel, THE POLONIA PRESS: Do you envisage some central functions to mark the 30th anniversary of the June events?

Urban: This is March.

Guy Dinmore: The chairman of the Planning Commission said not so long ago that the USSR might loan Poland Rl billion. Could you comment?

Urban: No, I have no comment to make. I have no idea in what connection Vice Premier Gorywoda said this. I do not know the text of his statement. Talks with the USSR about various joint ventures in cooperation are continuing. These ventures are based on various principles of mutual financing. I think your question refers to some specific venture.

SCIENTEIA CALLS U.S.-LIBYAN CLASHES 'INADMISSIBLE'

AU260933 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 0904 GMT 26 Mar 86

[From the Press Review]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 26/3/1986 -- The daily newspapers cover the U.S.-Libyan armed clashes in the Gulf of Sidra, stressing the deep concern that they aroused throughout the world. An editorial note in SCINTEIA terms those acts as inadmissible, they are a serious risk with unpredictable consequences for local and international peace and security. It is imperative, the newspaper stresses, that a sense of responsibility prevail, and everything possible be done to prevent the conflict from growing, to put an end to the state of confrontation in U.S.-Libyan relations. Positions to these incidents taken throughout the world are also covered by the press.

AGERPRES CONDEMNS RECENT U.S. NUCLEAR TEST

AU251400 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1342 GMT 25 Mar 86

["Statement by the Romanian News Agency AGERPRES" -- AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES 25/3/1986 -- In conncection with the recent underground nuclear test conducted by the United States of America, the Romanian news agency is empowered to state the following:

The Romanian people is deeply concerned over and most firmly disapproves of the new underground nuclear-weapon test recently performed by the United States of America ignoring the demands and protests of the world public opinion, of the public in the USA included. Romania has always stated resolutely against any nuclear-weapon tests and demands that everything possible should be done to put an end to such tests which only lead to the deterioration of the international situation, the intensification of arming and the enhancement of the danger of a devastating nuclear war.

Public opinion in Romania, the Romanian people, just like the other peace-loving peoples and forces in the whole world, demand that the U.S. should halt nuclear tests, give a positive answer and join in the unilateral moratorium instituted by the Soviet Union on nuclear tests and the passage to negotiations to conclude an accord along this line. Romania considers that all nuclear-weapon states should necessarily assume the pledge of no longer conducting nuclear-weapon tests and starting talks for the signing of a treaty on a complete ban on these tests.

In the spirit of the general policy of peace, disarmament and broad international collaboration promoted by the Romanian party and state, the Romanian people will further work firmly together with all the peoples of the world for a halt of nuclear-weapon tests, for disarmament, for nuclear disarmament in the first place, for the ensurance of a lasting climate of peace and security throughout the world.

USSR AMBASSADOR SPEAKS ON 27TH CPSU CONGRESS

AU251930 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1925 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES 25/3/1986 -- A press conference was delivered at the Bucharest Embassy of the Soviet Union, on March 25, in which Ambassador E.M. Tyzahelnikov spoke about the significance of the resolutions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU. The speaker stressed that the Soviet Communists' forum, an event of historic importance in the life of the party and of the Soviet State, traced the new strategic line of speeding up the economic and social development of the USSR, of improving the whole activity of management, planning, of enlarging socialist democracy -- objectives through whose achievement the peoples in the Soviet Union will traverse yet another important stage on the road of developed socialism, of building the communist society.

Referring to the relations of friendship and collaboration between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Romanian Communist Party, between the Soviet and Romanian peoples, the speaker stressed that the developed and diversified continuously to mutual benefit, in the interests of the general cause of socialism and communism. Emphasized with satisfaction was the great role played by the meetings and talks between Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and Nicolae Ceausescu, General secretary of the Romanian Communist Party, which accounted for contributions of greatest importance to the continuous expansion and consolidation of the good relations between the two parties, countries and peoples, to the triumph of peace and international understanding.

The participants included representatives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Council of Socialist Culture and Education, of the leading press, AGERPRES, and radio and television, as well as press attaches and foreign press correspondents accredited in Bucharest.

A press conference presenting the importance of the resolutions of the 27th Congress of the CPSU was held also at the Soviet General Consulate in Constanta.

RCP CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM SLATED 1-2 APRIL

AU251833 Bucharest Domestic Service in Romanian 1800 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] The Political Executive Committee of the RCP Central Committee, which met today under the chairmanship of RCP Secretary General Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, decided to convene a party Central Committee plenum on 1-2 April 1986.

By State Council decree, signed by President Nicolae Ceausescu, the third session of the ninth legislature of the Grand National Assembly was convened for 1000 on 3 April 1986.

PRESIDENCY CALLS FOR END TO U.S. MILITARY MOVES

LD251828 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1717 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Text] Belgrade, 25 Mar (TANJUG) -- The SFRY Presidency held a session today, presided over by Radovan Vlajkovic, president of the Presidency. The session examined the SFRY's forthcoming activity and involvement in the Nonaligned Movement.

Looking at the latest dangerous exacerbation of the situation in the central Mediterranean -- where there have been aggressive armed attacks by the U.S. 6th Fleet against installations and territory of the Libyan Jamahiriyah -- the SRFY Presidency expressed very great concern at this, condemned the attacks, and called for an urgent end to the military operations which are threatening the security and territorial integrity of the countries of the region, in particular the Libyan Jamahiriyah, as well as peace and security in the world at large.

In its statement on the tense situation in the Mediterranean of 27 February this year, with which European and the Mediterranean governments have been acquainted, the SFRY Presidency stressed that no problem can be solved by a show of strength and military pressure and warned that this only worsens the situation and leads to unforeseeable and far-reaching consequences. The latest development of events only confirms that as a result of the increasing build-up of armed forces by the great powers and the failure to resolve crisis situations in this area, the Mediterranean region is turning into a new and serious hotbed of crisis in the world.

With this in mind, the SFRY Presidency pointed to the urgent need for immediate action by the entire international community and by the UN Security Council, in particular, in order to prevent large-scale conflicts, to ensure that sovereignty and territorial integrity of the Libyan Jamahiriyah are respected, and to find peaceful solutions in keeping with the principles of the UN Charter and the policy of nonalignment. This calls for intensified efforts on the part of the nonaligned and other countries in the Mediterranean so that peace and security in the region could be preserved and cooperation between the Mediterranean countries promoted. Yugoslavia will take a most active part in these efforts and make its full contribution.

Raif Dizdarevic, the federal secretary for foreign affairs, informed the Presidency about the preparations for the forthcoming ministerial meeting of the coordinating committee to be held in Delhi from 16 to 19 April.

President Vlajkovic informed the Presidency about the outcome of the recent official and friendly visit to our country by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. It was judged that the Yugoslav-Palestinian talks had reflected the proximity of views about many international issues and about those concerning bilateral relations and cooperation. Particular attention was drawn to the importance of the support, reiterated on this occasion as well, by our country for the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and for the role which the PLO, as the independent and indispensable factor in the efforts to resolve the Middle East crisis and the Palestinian issue, in particular, on the basis of the international recognized principles, should play.

Sundic Commentary

LD251649 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 25 Mar 86

[Milika Sundic Commentary]

[Text] Regardless of the fact of whether Libya has the right to extend the limit of its territorial waters in the Gulf of Sidra to 200 miles and to mark this line as the line of death, the way in which the United States chose to challenge this is absolutely unacceptable and dangerous. The very fact that the first armed incidents took place both at sea and on land leads to such a conclusion. The United States has taken a conscious step towards the exacerbation of the situation in relations with Libya and with the obvious intention to provoke Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Unfortunately, it succeeded in doing this and the question now arises of what to do next. If the United States pursues until the end the realization of its -- as claimed in Washington -- legitimate rights, the conflict between Libya and the United States will be imminent and the consequences unforeseeable. Peace in this part of the world has already been unstable for a long time and little is needed for the war conflict to spread over to all the neighboring countries.

On the other hand the exacerbation of relations on the Washington-Tripoli lines could become a threat to everything the world had recently hoped for after last year's Reagan-Gorbachev meeting in Geneva. It is obvious that the behavior of the United States whose war ships have recently also violated Soviet territorial waters near Crimea, is not contributing to efforts to reduce lack of trust between the two superpowers. One even has the impression that President Reagan is not ready for a comprehensive and equal dialogue with Moscow, as if he were seeking through a confrontation with Libya, to see how the Soviet Union would heave in such a situation. These are very dangerous calculations which bode no good.

One could spend much time discussing whether a country has the right to expand its territorial waters to suit its needs and in this particular case, it is the question of Libya. But, even if we allow for the possibility that Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi went too far by proclaiming the Gulf of Sidra to be in the Libyan territorial waters, this by no means gives the United States the right to settle the matter by force. There were endless other ways of sorting things out differently. However, the United States obviously did too. Reagan has been obsessed for a long time with the idea of punishing Al-Qadhdhafi and so even the third U.S. naval exercise off the Libyan coast was planned with this in mind. Such a demonstration of force, as it turned out in the end, could not pass without incidents and perhaps it will not be able to get by without a larger-scale conflict. The world cannot accept such behaviour, since it threatens the very foundations of peace, not only in this region, but also further afield.

Bearing in mind the present-day situation and how it could change tomorrow, the only correct way out can be found in the United States immediately giving up its threats against nonaligned Libya. Otherwise, the United States will bear all the consequences which can result from the existing situation.

Finally, let us recall our country's attitude. Yugoslavia pointed out right from the beginning that every demonstration of force, in any part of the world and also off the Libyan coast, represents danger to the world peace which can have unforeseeable consequences. In this concrete case this has a great deal to do with our security.

PLANINC HOLDS TALKS WITH AUSTRIAN CHANCELLOR

LD251254 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1941 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Text] Vienna, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council, and Austrian Chancellor Fred Sinowatz today held long and very meaningful talks which covered a number of issues related to ways of promoting bilateral cooperation, during which an exchange of views was conducted on current international politics. On this occasion both sides reiterated their desire and readiness to continue to consolidate friendly and good-neighborly cooperation on stable and long-term bases with mutual understanding and respect, and to provide fresh stimuli for its promotion in all the spheres of interest for Yugoslavia and Austria.

"We have every reason to be proud of what has already been achieved in the development of cooperation and friendly relations between our two countries," Chancellor Sinowatz stressed. The two sides also established that there exists a broad agreement and proximity of views as regards topical issues of international relations where the two countries' efforts are designed to achieve stability and peace in Europe and in the rest of the world.

Besides Milka Planinc and Chancellor Sinowatz, the official Austrian-Yugoslav talks were attended on the Yugoslav side by Vlado Klemencic, federal secretary for finance; Budimir Loncar, deputy federal secretary for foreign affairs; and by Milos Krstic, the SFRY ambassador in Vienna; and on the Austrian side by Leopold Gratz, minister of foreign affairs; Paul Leifer, Austrian ambassador in Belgrade; Eva Novak, foreign policy adviser, and other senior Austrian officials.

During the Planinc-Sinowatz talks, which lasted for almost 3 hours and overran their scheduled time, most attention was focused on economic relations. It was stressed that if economic cooperation is to continue to develop both sides must invest fresh efforts in order to eliminate Yugoslavia's deficit in the trade between the two countries. The trade imbalance is a limiting factor in the efforts to promote economic relations, the Yugoslav side emphasized. The Austrian side agreed with this assessment. The Yugoslav side also pointed out that, even when charged at a reduced preferential rate, customs duties imposed by Austria are an obstacle to the penetration of Yugoslav industrial products into the Austrian market. In addition to the problem of unbalanced trade, there is also that of the unfavorable structure of Yugoslav exports since customs and other kinds of obstacles stop Yugoslavia from exporting semifinished and finished products. Besides stressing the need for more specific measures in order to promote the trade between the two countries, interest was reiterated in developing higher forms of economic cooperation, industrial cooperation and joint ventures in third markets, which is considered to be an area of prospects with untapped resources where the two countries could make significant advances. Consideration was given to other forms of cooperation in transportation (including Yugoslav ports) and tourism.

The Yugoslav side put forward the view that in addition to the practical measures which Austria is taking to encourage border area cooperation there is also need for a Yugoslav-Austrian agreement to cover this type of cooperation.

President of the Federal Executive Council Milka Planinc and members of the Yugoslav delegation today visited the Austrian Parliament where they had brief cordial talks with the president of the parliament, Anton Benya. The talks focused on cooperation between the two countries. This afternoon Milka Planinc visited Vienna Townshall where she signed the "Golden Book".

In the part of the talks devoted to the status of the Slovene and Croatian minorities, to which both sides devoted considerable attention, the Yugoslav side stressed an interest in the overall and comprehensive development of these national groups in Austria in accordance with article seven of the Austrian State Agreement.

Milka Planinc and Chancellor Sinowatz talked in detail about topical international issues. In both side's view, given the complexity of the situation in the world, it is of particular importance that the U.S.-USSR dialogue be resumed and that conditions are created for solving the most pressing of the problems, i.e. disarmament, and nuclear disarmament, in particular, and the problem of unjust international relations in the economic sphere which are having a particularly adverse effect on the developing countries. Particular stress was placed on the role and importance of cooperation between Austria and Yugoslavia within the group of neutral and nonaligned countries which played an important part at the Stockholm Conference. In this way the two countries are making full contribution to the consolidation of the CSCE process and peace in the world.

Milka Planinc invited Chancellor Sinowatz to visit Yugoslavia. Chancellor Sinowatz accepted the invitation with pleasure.

Planinc Dinner Toast

LD251423 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1822 GMT 24 Mar 86

[Toast "in part" by Milka Planinc, president of the Federal Executive Council at dinner hosted by Austrian Chancellor Fred Sinowatz in Vienna on 24 March]

[Text] Vienna, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- "I consider that our talks today were useful and fruitful. In them we again confirmed our joint readiness as neighbors to have developed relations and the most meaningful possible cooperation on all issues of joint interest.

We base our relations with all countries on respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity, noninterference and the development of mutually advantageous cooperation. On these principles Yugoslavia is oriented lastingly toward the strengthening of friendship with neighboring Austria as well. We can note with satisfaction that we have reaffirmed this orientation and strengthened these principles as a joint basis for cooperation in our talks today. We are sure that there is till sufficient scope for the development of political relations, which we in any case consider to be good. It is of interest to both sides that we make particular efforts to promote economic relations between the SFRY and the Republic of Austria.

Here we are thinking above all of a qualitative and quantitive improvement in trade and of cooperation and joint investments, cooperation on third markets, financial cooperation, tourism and border economic cooperation. On this occasion too I would repeat that overcoming the problem of imbalance in trade, which is a constant factor limiting bilateral economic cooperation, would be of particular significance. At the same time I wish to take this opportunity to emphasize that we value your country's understanding of and support for our efforts towards economic stablization. We are also interested in the further development of cultural, educational, scientific-technical, informational and every other type of cooperation.

As is well known, Yugoslavia is a multi-national community. Full equality between all the nations and nationalities provides the foundations of its stability and the basis of its democractic superstructure. This, and the orientation toward the development of good-neighborly relations, points us toward interest in sections of Yugoslav nations which live as national monorities in neighboring countries. Proceeding from all this, we also see a positive place, role and contribution which the Slovene and Croatian national minorities living in Austria provide for relations between the two countries. When we show an interest in their comprehensive an all-round development, we have in mind the complete realization of Article Seven of the State Treaty. At the same time, and in connection with this, we welcome the Austrian side's readiness to continue direct dialogue with representatives of the Croatian and Slovene national minorities. Our talks today are encouraging in this respect.

We also attach great significance to the fact that a large number of workers from our country live and work in Austria. They, the large number of Austrian tourists which visit our country every year, and the direct and living contacts which in this way we carry out every day, make a considerable contribution to better mutual acquaintance, understanding the strengthening of a climate of trust between our peoples and countries.

Nonaligned Yugoslavia and neutral Austria have similar or close stands on the most significant problems of the world in which we live. Our cooperation at the United Nations, in the context of the group of nonaligned and neutral countries at the CSCE, at the Stockholm Conference and in other places and forums, as well as the constructive standpoints which we represent, are a significant contribution to strenghtening peace, security and cooperation in Europe and more widely in the world. This is all the more significant because it is precisely on the Continent of Europe that bloc policies and divisions confront each other most bitterly. A great international tribute to this kind of policy by your government was also provided by the agreement of European countries to hold the next meeting of the CSCE in your country, in the town whose beauty we are now enjoying.

During our talks so far we both expressed our concern over the complex international situation, but also the hope that ways will be found to overcome it. Although since our last meeting there have been signs of relaxation of tension, unfortunately we still cannot say that the solution of one single key world problem has been tackled. The arms race goes on, the focal points of crisis which have been burning for years are not being extinguished and new places and areas of tension and confrontation are emerging.

The problems of the developing countries, especially the question of their debts, are not being resolved, and the gulf between the rich and poor countries is constantly deepening. The resumption of the dialogue between the two great powers provides the hope that conditions are being created for a gradual approach to the solution and overcoming of these problems too. Of course, this is possible only if the entire international community participates on an equal footing and its interests are taken into account.

Yugoslavia's stand on the best way to resolve the key international problems are well-known. They are the positions of a overwhelming majority of mankind, of the overwhelming majority of the members of the world organization which the nonaligned policy and movement have been advocating and implementing for years. On this occasion once again I must stress our firm conviction that the United Nations is the only and the irreplaceable organ for a genuine solution of world problems, and for peace, security and development in the world. I should also like to stress the importance of the role which the nonaligned countries, as an independent and global factor of international relations, have in the implementation of these objectives. The forthcoming summit meeting of nonaligned heads of state and government in Harare will constitute yet another effort and contribution to preservation of peace and security and development of equitable cooperation in the world. As an active factor of the policy and movement of nonaligned countries, Yugoslavia is making a constant effort, together with other nonaligned countries, to contribute to the positive developments in this direction. We are particularly pleased that in these efforts we are often shoulder to shoulder with neighboring and friendly Austria, who belongs with us to the group of European nonaligned and neutral countries. These countries are a true counterweight to the division of our continent and as such a factor of stability in Europe.

ZARKOVIC LEADS LCY DELEGATION TO POLAND

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[Text] Belgrade, 24 Mar (TANJUG) -- Vidoje Zarkovic, president of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, left this morning at the head of an LCY delegation for an official and friendly visit to Poland at the invitation of Wojciech Jaruzelski, first secretary of the PZPR Central Committee and president of the Council of State. Also in the delegation are Dobrivoje Vidic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and Stanislav Stojanivoc, executive secretary of the LCY Central Committee Presidium.

During the visit the delegation will have talks with representatives of the PZRP on cooperation between the LCY and PZPR, the internal development of the two countries and preparations for the forthcoming LCY and PZPR Congresses. They will also discuss international problems and trends in the international workers and communist movement.

The delegation was seen off at Belgrade airport by Petar Matic, member of the LCY Central Committee Presidium, and other representatives of the LCY. Also present were representatives from the Polish Embassy in Belgrade.